REPORT

OF

THE COMMISSIONER OF INDIAN AFFAIRS,

NOVEMBER 25, 1852.

REPORT OF THE COMMISSIONER OF INDIAN AFFAIRS.

Department of the Interior,
Office Indian Affairs, November 30, 1852.

Sir: Among the errors that abound respecting our Indian relations, there is one so injurious to our national reputation that it should not be disregarded. The opinion is extensively entertained that our whole course of conduct towards the red men of this country has been marked by injustice and inhumanity. An enlightened consideration of the subject will lead to a different conclusion.

When civilization and barbarism are brought in such relation that they cannot coexist together, it is right that the superiority of the former should be asserted and the latter compelled to give way. It is, therefore, no matter of regret or reproach that so large a portion of our territory has been wrested from its aboriginal inhabitants and made the happy abodes of an enlightened and Christian people. That the means employed to effect this grand result have not always been just, or that the conquest has been attended by a vast amount of human suffering, cannot be denied. Of the Indian's wrongs there is, indeed, no earthly record. But it will not be forgotten, by those who have a correct understanding of this subject, that much of the injury of which the red man and his friends complain has been the inevitable consequence of his own perverse and vicious nature. In the long and varied conflict between the white man and the red—civilization and barbarism—the former has often been compelled to recede, and be destroyed, or to advance and destroy. The history of the contest, however, bears witness to the fact that the victor has, in general, manifested a generous desire, not only to spare the vanquished, but to improve his condition. It would be a difficult task to count the enormous sums of money that have been expended by the government and by philanthropic individuals in their manifold efforts to reclaim and civilize the Indians within our limits; and who can fail to remember, with reverence and regret, "the noble army of martyrs" who have sacrificed themselves in this holy cause? The results, it is true, have not been commensurate with the means employed; but enough has been achieved to attest the practicability of the Indian's redemption, and to stimulate to further and persevering exertions to accomplish the work.

Those tribes with whom we have treaty engagements, and who are more closely connected with us, through the medium of agents, continue to receive healthful impulses towards a higher and better condition. And even those who are more wild, and less inclined to cast off their indigenous habits of indolence and improvidence, are beginning to profit by the good example of the other class. The embarrassments to which they are subjected, in consequence of the onward pressure of the whites, are gradually teaching them the important lesson that they must ere long change their mode of life, or cease to

live at all. It is by industry or extinction that the problem of their destiny must be solved.

One of the surest guarantees for the good conduct of our Indians is an adequate knowledge of the power of the government. Where such knowledge prevails, it is comparatively easy to control them; but where displays of our power have been feeble or fit ul, the natural tendencies of the Indian to rapine and slaughter operate with but little restraint. In the extension of our settlements and the increasing intercourse between our Atlantic and Pacific possessions much opportunity is afforded the aborigines of the interior to learn the truth concerning us. And it is only where this opportunity is wanting, or where there has been remissness on our part to make proper exhibitions of our superior strength, that a disposition is found to thwart the policy or provoke the hostility of the government.

Though some of the tribes with whom we have treaty relations have suffered through indolence, vice, and an obstinate adherence to aboriginal modes and habits, it is gratifying to know that a majority of them are substantially improving their condition; and notwithstanding their sufferings, in many cases, have doubtless been severe, perhaps the wisdom they have thus acquired has not been purchased too dearly. Deep-seated maladies can be remedied by no superficial curatives; and it has been the work of hunger, disease, and death to arouse in the survivors a perception of the only conditions upon which human life and comfort can be sustained on earth.

The mission and other schools established amongst the various tribes are generally prosperous, especially those in which the principle of manual labor is a leading feature. As impatience of regular labor, exhibited in unsteadiness of application, is the radical defect of the Indian character, it is but a dictate of common sense to address ourselves first and mainly to its correction. This effected, a foundation is laid upon which our best hopes for the reclamation of the savage may be safely built. Without it, no matter to what extent we may educate a few individuals of a tribe, lasting good is rarely produced. The merely book-taught Indian, if the radical failing be unreformed, is almost certain to resume, at length, the barbarism of his original condition, deriving no other advantages from his acquirements than a more refined cunning, and a greater ability to concoct and perpetrate schemes of mischief and violence.

The dissensions among the Seneca Indians in New York, respecting their form of government, having assumed a serious aspect, the President, in July last, directed that steps should be taken to ascertain the sense of the nation on the subject. An election was accordingly held, at which all the votes cast were in favor of the reëstablishment of the old system of government by chiefs. But the number of votes was only 194, while the whole number of voters on the several reservations amounts to 664; and it appears that those in favor of maintaining the present elective government unanimously refused to attend the polls. This they did on the ground that it would be wrong to take part in any revolutionary proceeding, as their constitution provides that it shall stand unchanged for at least five years. The result of the election not

being satisfactory, the question, Which form of government shall be recognised as the choice of the people? has not yet been decided.

The Indians in the State of Michigan are generally doing well. They are becoming a sober, orderly, and industrious people, devoting themselves to the cultivation of the soil. Their agricultural operations have been crowned with their proper rewards; education is encouraged amongst them, and they are making commendable progress in the knowledge and practice of the arts of civilized life. Similar remarks are equally applicable to the Oneida Indians in the State of Wisconsin.

By the treaty of 1848 with the Stockbridges, it is provided that the President, within two years from the date of the treaty, shall procure for their use a quantity of land west of the Mississippi river, on which they shall reside, not less than seventy-two sections; said Indians to be consulted as to the location of said land. This provision has not yet been carried into effect, and the affairs of these Indians are in a very unsettled and embarrassing condition. They were anxious to be located on the land about the mouth of the Vermillion river, in the Territory of Minnesota; but the selection was not approved by the government, and they have more recently expressed a willingness to accept a tract on the Crow river, in that Territory. The treaties with the Sioux Indians being now ratified, there seems to be no good reason for not complying with their present views; but the season is too far advanced to make the arrangements required before the ensuing spring.

The removal of the Menomonees, as contemplated by an act of Congress passed at the last session, has been satisfactorily effected. The whole tribe are now concentrated on the designated territory between the Wolf and Oconto rivers—a location with which they are well pleased, and where they are anxious to be permitted permanently to remain. Should this be assented to by the legislature of Wisconsin, the arrangements necessary to effect the object can be readily made on terms, it is believed, mutually advantageous to the Indians and the government. The country where they are now located is well suited to their wants, and I know of none to which they could with propriety be removed, and where they would, at the same time, be so little in the way of our white population. Wherever they may be settled, it will be incumbent on Congress to make further provision for them, as their claims appeal strongly to the justice and humanity of the government.

A removal of the Chippewa agency has been made from its former position to a more favorable site on the Crow-wing river, west of the Mississippi. A considerable number of the Chippewas yet remain at their old homes in the country ceded to the United States; but, by adhering to the policy of paying them their annuities only in their own territory, it is thought that such of them as it may be desirable to remove will soon be induced quietly to abandon the ceded lands. With the exception, perhaps, of one or two small bands who may be eligibly located on Lake Superior, measures should be promptly taken for the concentration of the entire Chippewa tribe within a limited district west of the Mississippi river.

There seems to be of late increased dissatisfaction among the Winnebagoes with their present location, and they have a strong desire to

be permitted to occupy a portion of the territory recently purchased from the Sioux, lying north of the Crow river. Arrangements for this purpose are in contemplation, and it is hoped they may be effected during the next spring without cost to the government; but they should not be attempted unless the scattered fragments of the tribe can be thereby brought together, and all settled contentedly in their new homes.

In the month of September last, the amendments of the Senate to the two treaties concluded in the summer of 1851 with the Sioux of Minnesota were submitted to the different bands, parties thereto, and received their formal but reluctant assent. It would not be an easy task to estimate the benefits to both whites and Indians which the consummation of these treaties is calculated to produce. All danger of future hostile collision between our citizens and one of the most numerous and powerful tribes of all that region has been happily removed, a vast tract of admirable country laid open for peaceable cultivation, and ample means provided for the welfare and improvement of the Indians. In consideration of the increased labor and responsibility that will hereafter devolve on the agent for the Sioux, his salary should be raised from one thousand to fifteen hundred dollars.

The scarcity of buffalo the preceding summer was severely felt in the winter of 1851–'52, by the Sioux of the Missouri. They were thus necessarily driven, when spring came on, to apply themselves to the surer means of subsistence in the cultivation of the soil. Their upright and faithful agent (Mr. James H. Norwood, whose death by violence has recently been reported to the department) rendered them what aid he could in having some lands ploughed for them, and they have been led to expect further assistance hereafter. Many white men, now, or formerly, in the employ of the fur companies, have intermarried with these Sioux, and exert, for good or evil, a powerful influence over them. It has been suggested that it would be good policy to colonize these people along the rich bottoms with which those wild regions are interspersed, giving them lands to be held in individual right as long as actually occupied. The suggestion is worthy of consideration.

The Omahas, an impoverished but peaceful tribe on the western border of Iowa, have suffered much for several years from the trespasses of the whites, and the rapacity of the more warlike tribes by which they are in part surrounded; but the appropriation generously made for their benefit at the last session of Congress will doubtless alleviate their distress, and in time greatly ameliorate their condition. It will be used chiefly for the purpose of furnishing them the means of cultivating the soil, which, from the disposition they manifest, it is believed they will readily appreciate and approve.

The Kickapoos and Iowas of the great Nemaha agency, and the Sacs and Foxes thereto attached, have all secured rich returns for their field industry, and they are all worthy of commendatory notice for their general good conduct.

The Wyandots, now reduced to a comparatively small number, find it difficult to manage their public affairs, and are anxious to abandon their tribal organization and become citizens of the United States. To this end they, in common with many of our white population, are

impatiently awaiting the establishment of a territorial government over the vast region north of the Arkansas and west of the Missouri rivers. This measure, though fraught with difficulty and danger, will doubtless force itself on the consideration of Congress; but, before it can be justly carried into effect, important preliminary arrangements must be made, involving the future disposition and management of various Indian tribes occupying the territory in question.

The Delaware Indians are among the most remarkable of all our colonized tribes. By their intrepidity and varied enterprise, they are distinguished in a high degree. Besides being industrious farmers and herdsmen, they hunt and trade all over the interior of the continent, carrying their traffic beyond the Great Salt Lake, and consequently expose themselves to a thousand perils. Under these circumstances, they are steadily diminishing.

The Christian Indians, a peculiar and interesting band, once resident in Canada, whence they emigrated from Ohio, are now located on the lands of the Wyandots, who consider them as intruders, and desire their removal. They have strong claims on the government, and the attention of Congress was called to the subject at the last session; but nothing definite was done. It is hoped that suitable provision for them may be made at an early day.

The Shawnees are eminently successful as agriculturists, and are rapidly advancing in general improvement. But for the baneful effects of intemperance, to which their proximity to the border settlements greatly exposes them, they would soon become a highly moral and prosperous people. Several murders of recent occurence among them are attributable to this fruitful source of evil.

The condition of the Pottawatomies continues substantially the same as heretofore reported. They depend mainly for support, especially in winter, on their large annuity, and but little or no improvement is manifest in their modes of living.

The location of the Kanzas Indians in the country about Council Grove, on the great Santa Fé road, is unfortunate for them and the whites. They are a rude and depraved tribe, and little can be done for their welfare whilst they remain liable to the pernicious associations that await them there. Their vicious practices are also the cause of frequent annoyance to the numerous traders and travellers who pass that way.

The small-pox, reinforced by inebriety and general dissoluteness, has this year dealt sternly with the Sacs and Foxes. Their numbers have been thinned by death with unsparing hand. Agriculture is almost entirely neglected, and their attachment to old habits, encouraged by their despotic chiefs, materially retards their improvement.

The Swan Creek and Black River Chippewas of the Sac and Fox agency are in a prosperous condition, though they make frequent and just complaints of the depredations by the Sacs and Foxes upon their stock. As these Indians speak the same language with the Ottowas of this agency, and are in all respects a homogeneous people, it would be well if they were all blended together as one tribe. These Ottowas are distinguished for their steady progress, and in their modes of life are little behind the generality of the white population of the

adjoining States. They, too, suffer from the predatory practices of the Sacs and Foxes, and with a patient forbearance of retaliation that merits some reward at the hands of the government.

But the department is without power to afford adequate redress; for, although the Sacs and Foxes are the recipients of large annuities, not a dollar of their money can be taken without their consent to pay for depredations committed by them on the property of other tribes. The intercourse act makes no provision for such cases, as it applies alone to depredations on the property of citizens of the United States.

The Weas, Peorias, and Piankeshaws of the Osage River agency continue to furnish evidence of commendable industry and steady improvement. It is to be regretted that the Miamies belonging to the same agency are not entitled to like favorable notice. They stand in decided contrast with the other affiliated tribes. The effect of the large annuities that have been paid them has been to check all industry and thrift, and to tempt them to general idleness and dissipation. Within six years they have diminished one-half, with a prospect of still further decrease.

The Cherokees are embarrassed by an onerous public debt, which they are striving in good faith to discharge. For this and other public purposes they are anxious to sell to the United States the tract of country, containing about 800,000 acres, known as the "Cherokee neutral ground;" and there is much force of argument in favor of the obligation of the government to relieve them, by taking back the land at the price they were required to allow the United States for it when it was granted to them. But, notwithstanding the evil alluded to, this tribe, with most of the others in the southern superintendency, are steadily multiplying around them the blessings of life, and afford the highest evidence of the justice and wisdom of our policy towards them. By a convention entered into in 1837, between the Choctaws and Chickasaws, the latter, under certain conditions and restrictions therein provided, became a component part of the Choctaw nation. But they are becoming more and more dissatisfied with the political connexion between them and the Choctaws, and there is reason to believe that the best interests of both would be promoted by a separation of the tribes The Chickasaws have applied to the government to interpose its authority for the purpose of effecting this object; but as the union was the result of mutual agreement, it is desired that their separation, if practicable, shall be accomplished in like manner.

A similar state of things exists in relation to the Creeks and Seminoles. Considering the previous relations between these tribes, the attempt to unite them was injudicious; and great dissatisfaction on the part of the Seminoles has been the result. When those remaining in Florida shall join their brethren West, it will be necessary for the government, by treaty or otherwise, to adopt adequate measures for putting the united tribe of Seminoles in a more favorable condition.

The famous Seminole chief, Billy Bowlegs, with several other prominent Indians from Florida, have recently visited Washington, and, while here, they signed an agreement, in which they acknowledged that they and all the Seminoles in Florida were under obligations to emigrate, and promised to use their influence to effect their entire

removal with the least possible delay. Late advices from the special agent represent that Bowlegs adheres to his promise since his return. A council of his people had been called for the purpose of making preliminary arrangements, and a general emigration may reasonably be expected at an early day.

At the last session of Congress an appropriation was made for the purpose of effecting the removal from Texas of certain Indians "who have intruded themselves into that State from the territories of the United States." Suitable instructions in regard to this subject have been given to the proper agents of the department; but the measure contemplated is difficult to execute, and sufficient time and information have not yet been afforded to determine when and in what way the object may be accomplished. I have been informed, though unofficially, that the legislature of Texas have passed some act or resolution authorizing the Governor of the State to open negotiations with the Executive of the United States concerning the allotment of a portion of her territory as a common home for the Indians resident within her limits. The expediency of such an arrangement has been repeatedly and earnestly urged in reports from this office. It is, indeed, indispensable to a proper adjustment of Indian affairs in that State.

The most recent advices from New Mexico represent the Indians in that Territory as generally friendly, and that our relations with them are in a more satisfactory condition. In the vicinity of El Paso, however, the depredations of the Apaches are of frequent occurrence. A well organized and energetic body of mounted men, acting as scouting parties through the region infested by these marauding savages, is, perhaps, the only effectual means of holding them in check.

The Navajos and other tribes in this Territory, heretofore hostile and mischievous, have recently manifested a disposition to abandon their predatory habits and to seek support in the cultivation of the soil. To this end they are anxious to be furnished with agricultural and other implements of husbandry, and a judicious expenditure of a moderate appropriation in this way would doubtless be justified by considerations of economy alone.

Notwithstanding the mountain and prairie Indians continue to suffer from the vast number of emigrants who pass through their country, destroying their means of support, and scattering disease and death among them, yet those who were parties to the treaty concluded at Fort Laramie in the fall of 1851 have been true to their obligations, and have remained at peace among themselves and with the whites.

The negotiations provided for by a late act of Congress with the Comanches, Kioways, and other Indians on the Arkansas river, have been necessarily postponed until the ensuing spring. It will then be expedient to make them parties to the treaty of Fort Laramie or to one containing similar provisions.

At an early period in the last summer, the agent for the Indians in Utah undertook, with the approbation of the governor of the Territory, an expedition to the various tribes therein occupying the region west of the Great Salt Lake. The thoroughfare of travel to California and Oregon passes through their country, and the object of the expedition was to prevent a recurrence, if possible, of numerous and often fatal

collisions between the emigrants and Indians. It seems to have been eminently successful, as no murders or robberies are reported to have been committed by these Indians during the present year. To give some idea of the immense travel along this route, and the consequent importance of conciliating the Indians, the agent states that in returning to Salt Lake, he passed on each of several days as many as three hundred wagons.

Some timely and efficient measures for the proper disposition and management of the Indians in California are of pressing importance to all concerned. The difficulties in which the subject is involved are the more embarrassing in consequence of the abortive efforts that have been made to establish fixed and permanent relations with them. Since the rejection of the treaties concluded with a large number of the tribes, sufficient information has not been received to justify a confident opinion as to the plan of operations it may be most expedient to adopt. To any that have been or can be proposed, plausible objections may, doubtless, be urged; but, regarding the policy of the rejected treaties as finally abandoned, and considering the removal of the Indians from the State as impossible, I suggest, as worthy of consideration, the plan of forming them into two grand colonies, to be suitably located: one in the northern and the other in the southern portion of the State. Like circumstances recommend a like policy in relation to the Indians west of the Cascade mountains in Oregon. That the plan suggested cannot be carried into successful operation without the expenditure of large sums of money, is readily conceded; but what other measure, adequate to the exigencies of the case, is free from the same objection? Something better, it is hoped, may yet be devised. In the mean time, dogmatism, on a subject of such difficulty and importance, may well be forborne.

Due attention has been paid to the preparation of the third part of the work respecting the Indian tribes of the United States, published under the direction of this bureau, and it will be forthcoming during the approaching session of Congress. The edition of the first part, intended for distribution to the new members, will be ready for delivery at an early day in the session.

The present seems to be an appropriate occasion for calling the attention of Congress to certain treaty stipulations with various Indian tribes which the government, for a number of years, has failed to execute. In consideration of the cession of their lands to the United States by the Sioux of the Mississippi, the Sacs and Foxes of Mississippi and Missouri, the Winnebagoes, Delawares, Osages, Iowas, Creeks, and Stockbridges, it was stipulated, on the part of the government, that certain sums should be paid to said tribes, amounting, in the aggregate, to $2,396,600, and that the same should be invested in safe and profitable stocks, yielding an interest of not less than five per cent. per annum. Owing, however, to the embarrassed condition of the treasury, it was deemed advisable by Congress, in lieu of making the investments, to appropriate, from year to year, a sum equal to the annual interest, at five per cent., on the several amounts required to be invested. On this account the government has already paid from its treasury $1,742,240—a sum which is now equal to two-thirds of the

principal, and will, in a few years, be equal to the whole, if the practice of appropriating the interest shall be continued. As there is no limitation to the period of these payments, such a policy indefinitely pursued would prove a most costly one to the government. At the end of every period of twenty years it will have paid from the public treasury, by way of interest, the full amount of the stipulated investments. But such, it must be presumed, was never the intention of Congress. Nothing but necessity could justify that body in refusing to make appropriations required by the treaties of the government. The cause of the failure to do so, in the case of these Indian treaties, no longer exists. The public finances are in a prosperous condition. Instead of fiscal embarrassment, there is now a redundancy of money, and one of the vexed questions of the day is, what shall be done with the surplus in the treasury? Considering the premises, it seems to be quite clear that so much thereof as may be necessary for the purpose should be promptly applied to the fulfilment of our treaty obligations.

But investments on Indian account may, it is believed, be wisely extended to other cases than those in which they are expressly required by treaty. If the policy in itself be good, and it has often been sanctioned by the government, there appears to be no good reason why it should not be more extensively adopted. There is another class of our treaty stipulations, by which the government holds, *in trust*, for certain Indian tribes, $4,344,000. On this *trust-fund* it is bound to pay interest at the rate of five per cent., and, by a third class of like stipulations, it is bound to pay, annually, to sundry other tribes, on account of "permanent annuities" and "permanent provisions," $141,250. For the sake of convenient reference and calculation, tabular statements A, B, and C are herewith submitted, exhibiting, in a connected view, all the treaties embraced in the foregoing classification, the names of the several tribes, and the amounts stipulated to be invested, funded, &c. The amount annually appropriated, on account of these treaty obligations, is $478,280. By investing these amounts in safe stocks, yielding five per cent., the government may be relieved for all time to come from the necessity of making these annual appropriations; and the question certainly deserves to be considered, whether a disposition, in part, of the large surplus in the public treasury, can be made in any way so free from constitutional or other objections?

The want of uniformity in our Indian treaties is a source of much confusion and embarrassment. They have been made from time to time to meet the emergency of particular occasions, and without reference to system or general principles. They, however, constitute an important part of the supreme law of the land, and there are peculiar reasons why they should be carried faithfully into effect. But this it is extremely difficult to do, in consequence of their discordant and multifarious provisions. The whole code, if such an anomaly may be so called, is a singular compound of crude and cumbrous matter, prolific of vexatious questions, and incapable of harmonious adjustment. There are no doubt many of the tribes with whom new treaties could easily be concluded, superseding those previously made, and simplifying, to a most desirable extent, all our relations with them. A small appropriation would probably be sufficient for this purpose, and,

in my judgment, the money it would cost could not be more beneficially applied. If a large number of existing treaties were swept away, and others substituted in their stead, containing only a few plain, necessary, and assimilated provisions, serving as models for future treaties, and all looking mainly to the concentration of the several tribes; to their permanent domiciliation within fixed and narrow limits; to the establishment of efficient laws for the protection of their persons and property; and to a more judicious administration of the means provided for their support and improvement, the day would not be distant when the whole subject of our Indian affairs would assume a far more consistent and systematic form, presenting to the eye of the philanthropist and Christian a spectacle no longer cheerless and dispiriting, but redolent of consolation, encouragement, and hope.

Having, with studied brevity, presented to you the foregoing views, I conclude by referring, for more detailed information, to the reports of the superintendents, agents, &c., herewith submitted.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

L. LEA, *Commissioner.*

Hon. A. H. H. Stuart,
Secretary of the Interior.

Schedule of papers accompanying the annual report of the Commissioner of Indian Affairs for the year 1852.

A.—Statement exhibiting amounts required by treaty stipulations with various Indian tribes to be invested, &c.

B.—Statement exhibiting amounts required by treaty stipulations with various Indian tribes to be funded, &c.

C.—Statement exhibiting the several amounts of permanent annuities, permanent provisions for education, &c.

Reports of Superintendents of Indian Affairs, Agents, Superintendents and Teachers of Schools in the Indian country, &c.

NORTHERN SUPERINTENDENCY.

No. 1.—Report of S. Osborn, sub-agent, New York Indians
No. 2.—Report of agent Sprague.
No. 3.—School report of Rev. J. H. Pitezel.
No. 4.—School report of L. Slater, superintendent.
No. 5.—School report of Bishop P. P. Lefevre.
No. 6.—School report of George N. Smith.
No. 7.—School report of G. Bradley.
No. 8.—Report of Elias Murray, superintendent, &c.
No. 9.—Report of H. L. Murray.

MINNESOTA SUPERINTENDENCY.

No. 10.—Report of superintendent, Gov. A. Ramsey.
No. 11.—Report of agent Watrous.
No. 12.—School report of S. Hall, of A. B. C. T. Mission.
No. 13.—School report of S. P. Bardwell.
No. 14.—Report of agent A. M. Fridley.
No. 15.—Reports of W. Wickham and E. F. Mixer, farmers for Winnebagoes.
No. 16.—Report of George H. Fletcher, farmer for Winnebagoes.
No. 17.—School report of A. T. C. Pierson.
No. 18.—Report of agent N. McLean.
No. 19.—Report of P. Prescott, farmer for Sioux.

CENTRAL SUPERINTENDENCY.

No. 20.—Report of superintendent D. D. Mitchell.
No. 21.—Report of agent J. H. Norwood.
No. 22.—Report of agent Richardson.
No. 23.—School report of S. M. Irwin.
No. 24.—Report of agent Th. Mosely, jr.

SOUTHERN SUPERINTENDENCY.

TEXAS.

UTAH SUPERINTENDENCY.

OREGON SUPERINTENDENCY.

No. 65.—Report of superintendent Anson Dart.
No. 66.—Report of agent A. A. Skinner.
No. 67.—Report of agent A. A. Skinner.
No. 68.—Letter of Lot Whitcomb to superintendent Dart.
No. 69.—Superintendent Dart's reply to L. Whitcomb.
No. 70.—Report of agent A. A. Skinner.
No. 71.—Report of agent E. A. Starling.
No. 72.—Letter from Governor Douglas to E. A. Starling.

A.

Statement exhibiting amounts required by treaty stipulations with various Indian tribes to be invested, but which have not been; the date of said treaties, the several amounts of interest appropriated, &c.

Names of tribes.	Date of treaty.	Amount to be invested.	Rate of interest guaranteed.	Amount of interest annually appropriated.	Number of years appropriated.	Aggregate of appropriations made.	Remarks.
Sioux of the Mississippi	Sept. 29, 1837	$300,000	5 per ct.	$15,000	14	$210,000	
Sacs and Foxes of Mississippi	Oct. 21, 1837	200,000	"	10,000	15	150,000	
Sacs and Foxes of Missouri	Oct. 21, 1837	157,400	"	7,870	15	118,050	
Winnebagoes	Nov. 1, 1837	1,100,000	"	55,000	15	825,000	
Delawares	Sept. 24, 1829	46,080	"	2,304	14	32,256	The investment of these two items was directed by a resolution of the Senate.
Osages	June 2, 1825	69,120	"	3,456	14	48,384	
Iowas	Oct. 19, 1838	157,500	"	7,875	14	110,250	
Creeks	Nov. 23, 1838	350,000	"	17,500	14	245,000	
Stockbridges	Nov. 24, 1848	16,500	"	825	4	3,300	
		2,396,600	....	119,830	......	1,742,240	

B.

Statement exhibiting amounts required by treaty stipulations with various Indian tribes to be funded; the annual interest paid thereon, date of treaties, several amounts of interest appropriated, &c.

Names of tribes.	Date of treaties.	Amount to be funded.	Rate of interest.	Amount of interest annually appropriated.	Number of years appropriated.	Aggregate of appropriations made.	Remarks.
Sacs and Foxes of Mississippi.....	Oct. 11, 1842	$800,000	5 per ct.	$40,000	9	$360,000	
Kanzas	Jan. 14, 1846	200,000	5 per ct.	10,000	6	60,000	For 30 years; afterwards in proportion as to numbers.
Pottawatomies ...	June 17, 1846	643,000	5 per ct.	32,150	6	192,900	.....do.....do.....do.
		1,643,000	....	82,150	......	612,900	

C.

Statement exhibiting the several amounts of permanent annuities, permanent provisions for education, &c., for various Indian tribes.

Laws.	Vol.	Page.	Sec.	Names of tribes, and objects.	Acts and treaties.	Amount.	Total.
				CHRISTIAN INDIANS.			
Statutes at Large.	4	58 and 183	7 & last.	Permanent annuity.......	Acts May 26, 1824, and May 20, 1836	....	$400
				CHIPPEWAS OF SAGINAW.			
Do......	7	51	4	Permanent annuity.......	Per 4th art. treaty Aug. 3, 1795..	$1,000	
Do......	7	106	2	.........do...............	2d art. treaty Nov. 17, 1807..	800	
Do......	7	204	4	.........do...............	4th art. treaty Sept. 24, 1819..	1,000	
Do......	7	205	8	Permanent provision for support of blacksmiths, farming utensils, employment of persons, &c.	8th art. treaty Sept. 24, 1819, 7th art. treaty Jan. 14, 1837,	2,000	4,800
Do......	7	530	7				
Do......	3	608	1				
				CHOCTAWS.			
Do......	7	99	2	Permanent annuity.......	Per 2d art. treaty Nov. 16, 1805..	3,000	
Do......	7	213	13	.........do...............	13th art. treaty Oct. 18, 1820..	600	
Do......	7	235	2	.........do. for education..	2d art. treaty Jan. 20, 1825..	6,000	

Do......	7	212	6	Permanent provision for blacksmith............	6th art. treaty Oct. 18, 1820..	600	
Do......	7	236	9	Permanent provision for iron, steel, &c.........	9th art. treaty Jan. 20, 1825..	320	
							10,520
				CHICKASAWS.			
Do......	1	619	1	Permanent annuity.......	Per act of February 25, 1799....	....	3,000
				CREEKS.			
Do......	7	36	4	Permanent annuity.......	Per 4th art. treaty Aug. 7, 1790..	1,500	
Do......	7	69	2	........do...............	2d art. treaty June 16, 1802..	3,000	
Do......	7	287	4	........do...............	4th art. treaty Jan. 24, 1826..	20,000	
Do......	7	287	8	Permanent provision for blacksmith and assistant.	8th art. treaty Jan. 24, 1826..	840	
Do......	7	287	8	Permanent provision for iron, steel, &c.........	do.......do.....do.....	270	
Do......	7	368	13	Permanent provision for pay of wheelwright....	do.......do.....do.....	600	
							26,210
				DELAWARES.			
Do......	7	51	4	Permanent annuity.......	Per 4th art. treaty Aug. 3, 1795..	1,000	
Do......	7	114	3	........do...............	3d art. treaty Sept. 30, 1809..	500	
Do......	7	188	5	........do...............	5th art. treaty Oct. 3, 1818..	4,000	
Do......	7	327	3	........do...............	supp'y art. treaty Sept. 24, '29.	1,000	
Do......	7	75	3	Permanent provision for purchase of salt.......	3d art. treaty June 7, 1803....	100	

Statement exhibiting the several amounts of permanent annuities, &c.—Continued.

Laws.	Vol.	Page.	Sec.	Names of tribes, and objects.	Acts and treaties.	Amount.	Total.
Statutes at Large.	7	188	6	Permanent provision for blacksmith and assistant.	Per 6th art. treaty Oct. 3, 1818...	$720	
Do......	7	188	6	Permanent provision for iron, steel, &c.........	do.......do.....do.....	220	
							$7,540
				MIAMIES.			
Do......	7	301	4	Permanent annuity......	Per 4th art. treaty Oct. 23, 1826..	25,000	
Do......	7	191	5	Permanent provision for blacksmith and assistant.	5th art. treaty Oct. 6, 1818...	720	
Do......	7	191	5	Permanent provision for iron, steel, &c.........	do.......do.....do.....	220	
Do......	7	301	4	Permanent provision for tobacco, iron, and steel...	4th art. treaty Oct. 23, 1826..	770	
Do...... Do......	7 7	191 459	5 5	Permanent provision for pay of a miller, in lieu of a gunsmith.........	5th art. treaty Oct. 6, 1818, & 5th art. treaty Oct. 24, 1834..	600	
Do......	7	191	5	Permanent provision for purchase of salt.......	5th art. treaty Oct. 6, 1818...	320	
Do......	7	583	6	Permanent provision in lieu of laborers............	6th art. treaty Nov. 28, 1840.	250	
Do......	7	191	5	Permanent provision for agriculture.............	5th art. treaty Oct. 6, 1818...	200	
							28,080

				EEL RIVER MIAMIES.			
Do......	7	51	4	Permanent annuity.......	Per 4th art. treaty Aug. 3, 1795..	500	
Do......	7	91	3	........do..............	3d art. treaty Aug. 21, 1805..	250	
Do......	7	114	3	} ......do............ {	3d and separate article treaty		
Do......	7	116	....		Sept. 30, 1809...........	350	
							1,100
				OTTOWAS.			
Do......	7	51	4	Permanent annuity.......	Per 4th art. treaty Aug. 3, 1795..	1,000	
Do......	7	106	2	........do..............	2d art. treaty Nov. 17, 1817.	800	
Do......	7	179	4	........do..............	4th art. treaty Sept. 17, 1818.	1,500	
Do......	7	220	4	........do..............	4th art. treaty Aug. 29, 1821.	1,000	
							4,300
				PIANKESHAWS.			
Do......	7	51	4	Permanent annuity.......	Per 4th art. treaty Aug. 3, 1795..	500	
Do......	7	101	3	........do..............	3d art. treaty Dec. 30, 1805.	300	
							800
				POTTAWATOMIES OF HURON.			
Do......	7	106	2	Permanent annuity.......	Per 2d art. treaty Nov. 17, 1807.	....	400
				POTTAWATOMIES.			
Do......	7	51	4	Permanent annuity.......	Per 4th art. treaty Aug. 3, 1795.	1,000	
Do......	7	114	3	........do..............	3d art. treaty Sept. 30, 1809.	500	
Do......	7	185	3	........do..............	3d art. treaty Oct. 2, 1818.	2,500	
Do......	7	317	2	........do..............	2d art. treaty Sept. 20, 1828.	2,000	

Statement exhibiting the several amounts of permanent annuities, &c—Continued.

Laws.	Vol.	Page.	Sec.	Names of tribes, and objects.	Acts and treaties.	Amount.	Total.
Statutes at Large	7	320	2	Permanent annuity.......	Per 2d art. treaty July 29, 1829.	$16,000	
Do......	7	75	3	Permanent provision for purchase of salt	3d art. treaty June 7, 1803.	140	
Do......	7	296	3	Permanent provision for purchase of salt	3d art. treaty Oct. 16, 1826.	320	
Do......	7	296	3	Permanent provision for blacksmith and assistant.	do....do........do......	720	
Do......	7	296	3	Permanent provision for iron, steel, &c	do....do........do......	220	
Do...... Pamp. copy, '45-'46	7	318 28	2 1	Permanent provision for payment in money in lieu of tobacco	2d art. treaty Sept. 20, 1828, and 10th art. treaty June 5, 1846	300	
Statutes at Large	7	318	2	Permanent provision for blacksmith and assistant.	2d art. treaty Sept. 20, 1828.	720	
Do......	7	318	2	Permanent provision for iron, steel, &c	do....do........do......	220	
Do......	7	321	2	Permanent provision for blacksmith and assistant.	2d art. treaty July 29, 1829.	720	
Do......	7	321	2	Permanent provision for iron, steel, &c.........	do....do........do......	220	
Do......	7	320	2	Permanent provision for purchase of salt.......	do....do........do......	250	
							$25,830

				SACS AND FOXES OF MISSISSIPPI.			
Do......	7	85	3	Permanent annuity.......	Per 3d art. treaty Nov. 3, 1804..	....	1,000
				SHAWNEES.			
Do......	7	51	4	Permanent annuity.......	Per 4th art. treaty Aug. 3, 1795...	1,000	
Do......	7	161	4	.........do.............	4th art. treaty Sept. 29, 1817..	2,000	
Do......	7	75	3	Permanent provision for salt	3d art. treaty June 7, 1803...	60	
							3,060
				SENECAS AND SHAWNEES.			
Do......	7	179	4	Permanent annuity.......	Per 4th art. treaty Sept. 17, 1818.	....	1,000
				SENECAS.			
Do......	7	161	4	Permanent annuity	Per 4th art. treaty Sept. 29, 1817.	500	
Do......	7	179	4	.........do.............	4th art. treaty Sept. 17, 1818.	500	
							1,000
				WYANDOTS.			
Laws U. States..	10	951	3	Permanent annuity	Per 3d art. treaty March 17, 1842.	17,500	
Old edition.....	10	952	8	Permanent provision for blacksmith and assistant.	8th art. treaty March 17, 1842.	840	
Do......	10	952	8	Permanent provision for iron, steel, &c.........	do..do...do.......do....	370	
Do......	10	951	4	Permanent provision for education.............	4th art. treaty March 17, 1842.	500	
							19,210
				WEAS.			
Statutes at Large	7	187	5	Permanent annuity.......	Per 5th art. treaty Oct. 2, 1818...	....	3,000

Statement exhibiting the several amounts of permanent annuities, &c.—Continued

Laws.	Vol.	Page.	Sec.	Names of tribes, and objects.	Acts and treaties.	Amount.	Total.
				SIOUX OF THE MISSISSIPPI.			
Pam. copy Laws '51–52, p. 52	....	......	....	For interest on $1,360,000, at 5 per cent., for 50 years.	Per 4th art. treaty July 23, 1851, not yet published.............	$68,000	
Do......	....	......	....	For interest on $112,000, at 5 per cent., for 50 years, being in lieu of reservation.	See Senate's amendment to 3d art. of same treaty...............	5,600	
Do......	....	......	....	For interest on $1,160,000, at 5 per cent., for 50 years.	4th art. treaty August 5, 1851, not yet published...............	58,000	
Do......	....	......	....	For interest on $69,000, at 5 per cent., being in lieu of the reservation......	See Senate's amendment to 3d art. same treaty.................	3,450	
							$135,050

No. 1.

New York Sub-Agency,
Buffalo, September 30, 1852.

Sir: In my report of September 30, 1845, I expressed a confident expectation that the condition of the Senecas would undergo a rapid and permanent change for the better, from the time when the treaty requiring their concentration upon the Allegany and Cattaraugus reservations should be fully carried out. This expectation, I am grieved to say, has been utterly disappointed. It was founded upon evidences of increasing industry and sobriety upon the Cattaraugus reservation, and made no allowance for disturbing causes, some of which were inevitable, while others could not have been anticipated. I had made some allowance for a gradually increasing presence of the white population; but I did not foresee the malign consequences of recently-constructed railroads, and I could not anticipate those violent political changes which have occurred among these Indians.

The influences which are hostile to Indian improvement have gathered strength.

Prostitution and intemperance have increased, and the Indian continues to find in the waste of his timber the means of gratifying these vices, and indulging that indolence to which he is prone. The pine had been swept away, but the other timber of the Allegany reservation has been rendered valuable by the New York and Erie railroad, and is rapidly disappearing. The Indians do not engage in mechanic arts; and agriculture, among them, is progressing but slowly. Education may be more freely extended to them, but I regret to say that I see no evidence of its producing its best fruits in moral improvement.

I am persuaded that fierce quarrels among the Indians themselves about their own government and laws have been a great, if not the principal cause of their sad situation. There has been a continued strife upon these reservations ever since the so-called resolution brought about the new government. How can these people advance in the peaceful arts when they are embroiled in contentions about matters which few of them can understand anything of? The quarrel has become purely personal and factious, if it ever was otherwise—and this, too, at a time when internal harmony seems essential to the resistance of danger from abroad. There is, in fact, no government. The old chiefs have been elected under the new government, and they will not execute the functions of their office fully.

I trust, sir, that you will consider these opinions as forced from me by a sense of duty. I have always abstained from all interference with the Indians in such matters, and have contented myself with endeavoring to soothe asperities which I could neither avert nor cure. Any influence for good which I may possess over the Indians would be wholly lost were I to take sides with either faction.

The government is, in my opinion, of no consequence, so long as the Indians will live quietly under it, and give their thoughts and efforts to the education of their children, and adding to the comforts of their homes.

I am not sure that a return to the old customary government by

chiefs would be best. But I cannot shut my eyes to the consequences of the continuance of the present condition of things.

The Senecas resident in the Tonawanda reservation have a small number of chiefs, and what government there is, is in their hands. This band manages its own affairs without reference to the residue of the nation. They continue to repudiate the treaty ceding their reservation to the Ogden Company, and amid the embarrassments of their situation are surely, but slowly, retrograding.

With reference to the other tribes, there has been no material change for several years past.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

S. OSBORNE, *Sub-Agent.*

Hon. Luke Lea,

Commissioner of Indian Affairs.

Census of the Six Nations of New York.

Name of the tribe, and location.	Men.	Women.	Children.	Total.
Senecas at Cattaraugus	311	325	538	1,174
Senecas at Allegany	191	211	382	784
Senecas at Tonawanda	162	180	280	622
	664	716	1200	2,580
Onondagas at Onondaga Castle	87	94	137	
Onondagas with Senecas at Allegany	19	14	49	
Onondagas with Senecas at Cattaraugus	10	6	17	
Onondagas with Senecas at Tonawanda	......	1	3	
Onondagas with Tuscaroras at Tuscarora	4	7	13	
	120	122	219	461
Cayugas with Senecas	40	31	62	133
Tuscaroras at Tuscarora	70	66	140	276
Oneidas at Oneida Castle	46	42	86	
Oneidas with Senecas at Cattaragus	3	1	1	
Oneidas with Onondagas at Onondaga Castle	12	10	10	
	61	53	97	211
The following list of persons, with their families, claim that they are Oneidas, living with the Onondagas, and, at the general distribution of the Oneida lands, received their due portion:				
Sally Jones 5				
Adam Doxtater 8				
Malinda Jones 6				
Jenny Thomas 3				
22				22
Total number of Six Nations New York Indians				3,683

No. 2.

Mackinac Agency,
Office Indian Affairs, City of Detroit, Oct. 4, 1852.

Sir: I have the honor to submit, for your consideration, the following report of the state of the Indians within this agency:

As the Indians desired that I should visit their different settlements within the agency, and believing that my presence at their homes would result in their encouragement, and enable me more successfully to aid and direct them in their agricultural, educational, and other pursuits, I have devoted a portion of the past summer to that work.

I visited several settlements and mission stations among the Chippewas of Saginaw, and those of Swan creek and Black river, and I am happy to state that the reports which I had received of their prosperity were more than verified. There are three principal settlements and mission stations among them. One (Kazier mission) is on the reservation on the Flint river, a portion of which they have repurchased from the government; another (Bradley chapel) is twenty miles east of the village of Flint; and a third is five miles north of Lower Saginaw; besides several smaller settlements. At each of these points they own several hundred acres of first-rate land; their crops were in good condition, and their fences and other improvements were of a substantial character, and their houses were well built and comfortable.

The efforts to establish schools for the education of their children, and to bring them under the influence of the Christian religion, have been attended with the most marked and gratifying success. In one of these schools (at Bradley chapel) I found fifty scholars. They were well clad, and gave indisputable evidence that the labor bestowed upon their mental and moral culture had not been lost. The lands ceded by these Indians to the government, to be disposed of for their benefit, not having met with the ready sale which was then anticipated, has resulted greatly to their disadvantage; and as the amount of their annuity is small—not enough, indeed, to compensate them for the loss of time in attending the payment—if a final settlement of their affairs could be had with the government, it would meet their hearty cöoperation, and I have no doubt result greatly to their future welfare and advantage.

I also visited the Ottowas and Chippewas at Grand and Little Traverse, Middle Village, Village of the Cross, and several other points on the straits of Mackinac, and found them in a prosperous condition. They are temperate and industrious, and are embracing and following in all respects the habits and customs of the whites. By the cultivation of their lands, and their abundant fisheries, they are well provided with all the necessaries of life; and it is gratifying to state that these, as well as the other Indians of the agency, are now so far recovered from their former degraded condition and vices as to be able to estimate properly the assistance afforded them by the government, and to use it to the best advantage. And they have now intelligence and moral sentiment sufficient to enable them, in a good degree, to guard against those temptations which have heretofore proved so ruinous to them, and to protect themselves from the influence of designing and

interested persons. And with the care which will be taken of their interests by the government, and by proper vigilance on the part of its agents, they will be more and more fitted to protect and provide for themselves.

The reformed and improved condition of the Ottowas and Chippewas, in the vicinity of Sault Ste. Marie, was apparent at the recent annuity payment to them at that place, at which there were not over two or three cases of drunkenness, and at which they set aside, as they did last year, a portion of their annuities for the purchase of more land.

The Ottowas and Chippewas, and the Ottowas in the Grand River valley, are gradually improving their condition. Those at the Ottowa and Griswold Colony missions are as prosperous as at the time of my last annual report. The amount remitted by the department for the purchase of agricultural implements has been in part used for the benefit of these Indians, greatly to their encouragement.

The Pottawatomies of Huron, located in Calhoun, and the Chippewas, Ottowas, and Pottawatomies, located in Van Buren and Berrien counties, in this State, continue to give evidence of improvement, and evince a determination to show themselves worthy of the beneficial efforts made for their welfare.

The missionaries and teachers who labor among these, as well as the other Indians of this agency, have devoted themselves to the work with commendable zeal, and some of them with no small sacrifice of personal comfort and ease. They have the confidence of the Indians, and their labors have been attended with success. They are deserving of every assistance which the government and its agents can render them. And in this connexion I deem it proper to state, that at the time of the making of the several treaties with the Indians, so deep was their degradation, that they took but little interest in the education of their children, and therefore the provisions in the treaties for this object are found to be inadequate to their present wants. They now begin to see the deficiency, and deeply deplore a want which they have neither the means nor experience requisite to remedy. In any future adjustment of their affairs with the government, it would be a great benefit to them if special and ample provisions could be made for them in this respect.

In obedience to your instructions I proceeded to Sault Ste. Marie in July last; and, receiving from sub-agent Aitkin such property as he was pleased to turn over to me belonging to the United States, I relieved him from further service in that capacity. The agency building at that place I found to be in a dilapidated condition, and fast going to decay. Situated as it is one mile from the village, it will not, in my opinion, command a rent sufficient to justify an expenditure for the necessary repairs; but as the premises upon which it is situate are desirable, the whole property, I think, could be disposed of at a fair value. Now that the sub-agency there is discontinued, and its affairs transferred to this agency, I would recommend, if it should meet the views of the department, that it be disposed of at the earliest practicable period, reserving, perhaps, that portion upon which is situate the blacksmith shop.

For a more particular account of the condition and prospects of the

Ottowas and Chippewas at the Sault Ste. Marie and Ottowa Colony missions, I beg leave to refer you to the accompanying reports of the Rev. Messrs. Pitezel and Slater. I regret to be compelled to state that no other reports of a similar character have been received by me, although I have endeavored to impress upon the missionaries and teachers of my agency the importance of having their reports forwarded to me in time to accompany my annual report. As they may yet be received, it will be my pleasure to forward them to you, trusting that they may be received in time to accompany your annual communication to Congress.

With great respect, I am, dear sir, your obedient, humble servant,

WM. SPRAGUE, *Indian Agent.*

Hon. Luke Lea,

Commissioner of Indian Affairs, Washington.

No. 3.

Sault Ste. Marie, Michigan,
September 20, 1852.

Sir: I beg leave, at the close of the present conference year, to report the condition of the Indian mission embraced in your agency, called the Sault Ste. Marie mission.

The principal Indian station is located about thirty-five miles from the Falls of the St. Marie river, on the coast of Lake Superior. The members in church fellowship are 65, of whom 18 are on probation. A Sabbath school has been kept up, numbering 31 scholars. Some time since, at a camp-meeting held at Whitefish Point, a temperance meeting was held, and 105 of the Indians signed the pledge of total abstinence from all intoxicating drinks as a beverage. We hope they will have sufficient firmness to resist temptation from this source. We should rejoice to see these Indians improve more rapidly; but, at the same time, we are persuaded that they have made already great advances in Christian morality and religion, and in the same proportion have advanced toward civilization.

A day school has been kept up most of the time excepting during sugar-making. During the summer but few were in attendance, owing to the fact that the larger number of the Indians spent most of the summer at Whitefish Point, fishing. There was a good reason for their long-continued absence, arising from the prevalence of the small-pox among the Indians and half-breed population at the Sault, from which place it was carried to the saw-mill, within six miles of the Indian settlement. The school has numbered for the year 26 scholars, 9 of whom are females. Mrs. Rev. E. Steele has taught the school most of the time, with the aid of her husband. We had sufficient help and means on the spot to do more than was accomplished could the school have been better supplied with scholars. The average attendance has not been furnished me by the missionary. A list of the names of scholars you will find accompanying.

The settlement where these Indians now live is new, but they have ten or twelve comfortable log-houses, and sufficient land under cultivation to raise their own potatoes. With few exceptions, they are well fed and clad, and live comfortably compared with those who still stick to their blanket and follow the chase.

One means of their subsistence must be, from the nature of things, fishing. Lake Superior abounds with the finest fish, and none understand better than the Indians how to fish. As long as they reside about the lake, this occupation must be to them what the farm is to the farmer, or the trade to the mechanic. In the isolated situation of the missionaries who labor among them, they are necessarily called to endure many privations and much severe trial. They labor in hope of making the Indians more comfortable and happy in their physical, intellectual, and moral condition; looking, I trust, for their reward, not in the present, but in the world to come, where, we doubt not, many of the red men of the forest will, through their humble and yet honored instrumentality, wear forever the crown of a glorious immortality.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. H. PITEZEL,
Sup. Methodist Mission Indian Mis. District.

Hon. William Sprague,
Indian Agent, Detroit, Michigan.

No. 4.

Ottowa Colony, *September* 30, 1852.

Sir: I have the honor to submit to you the following report, stating the condition of the school and the prospects of the colony of Ottowa, with whom I still labor. The natives, neglecting the measures which foresight would dictate, were obliged so often to resort to the forest to obtain their meat and to browse their ponies, that the school was suspended during the winter. Miss walker taught the school the summer term. The present fall term is now in progress, and is taught by Miss Wells. The improvement of some of the children is encouraging and satisfactory; while many, on account of their inconstant attendance, make little progress. Our religious meetings have been sustained with interest, and I hope profit, to all.

One, the head of a family, of late expresses a hope of the forgiveness of her sins. I love to unfold to them the precious truths of he Gospel, to point out to them the way of salvation; but the temporal as well as the eternal interest of this people is a subject of much anxiety to me. It is with sadness I reflect upon their past, present, and future prospects. I have seen the tribe numerous and powerful, seated around their council-fires, their countenances and deportment revealing the native dignity of their nature, when unrestrained by the laws and unconfined by the fences of the white man, and when uncontaminated, too, with the distilled poison which has tended more than anything else to degrade and debase them. I have seen them fall one after another, from the venerable chief to the tenderest sickly infant, melting away almost as

the snow before the sun in the spring-time. A feeble and distracted remnant remain, like vanquished soldiers returned from battle; their strength is wasted, and they retain little of their former character, except a disposition to rove, and other traits which have ever hindered most the introduction of the Gospel and the success of schools among them. I have, for some time past, thought it best that, under the fostering care of the United States government, they might remove to the Indian territory, where they may enjoy their own privileges as an independent people, and still receive the benefits of Christian philanthropy. I have no doubt but their removal thence would greatly promote their temporal interests, and much advance their progress in civilization.

The chief of our colony, with others, has asked of their brethren West the privilege of uniting with them in the cultivation of their land. They met in council, and replied, through their missionary, that they would receive them to all the privileges themselves enjoyed which it was their prerogative to bestow. The chief and a number of others have determined to emigrate could they procure from government the means of defraying their expenses of removal. I have made the inquiry, and think the small sum of twenty dollars per individual would be sufficient.

I have the honor to be your obedient servant.

L. SLATER, *Superintendent.*

Hon. WILLIAM SPRAGUE.

No. 5.

DETROIT, *October* 6, 1852.

DEAR SIR: I have the honor, herewith, to submit to you a tabular report of the Indian schools connected with the Catholic missions under my charge, together with lists containing the names, ages, and sexes of the scholars who have attended school any portion of the year. In all these schools spelling, reading, and writing are invariably taught, and also ciphering, geography, and grammar to those who are more advanced. At the stations of Little Traverse, Point St. Ignace, and Mackinac, the girls are also taught sewing, knitting, trimming, cask-work, and various kinds of needle-work. The proficiency of the scholars who regularly attend, is in general very satisfactory, and some have improved beyond all expectation. The great majority of these children have natural capacity enough to learn any science or trade, but the great difficulty is to train them up to steady habits and assiduity; for many of them are so irregular in attending, and find so many reasons to absent themselves from school, that it is difficult for many teachers to know the exact number of those who have attended their school in the course of the year, which renders it sometimes very unpleasant and discouraging to the teacher. However, as nothing but religion can civilize and bring them to a full sense of their duty, we entertain the most sanguine hopes that the influence of the Catholic faith will soon obtain in them that desired effect.

The Indians in our stations are fast embracing religion, and we observe, with deep sensation of joy, that, so soon as they have subjected themselves to the mild yoke of Christ, their savage dispositions and wild propensities begin to disappear; they become enamored with the beauty of virtue; industry, sobriety, and morality are made chief objects of emulation among them, and their attention is gradually turned to all the necessary parts of domestic economy; justice and uprightness in their dealings, and charity towards each other, become also their great characteristics: so that we have great reason to believe that the period is fast approaching when it will be said with admiration, particularly of the stations of Little Traverse, Middletown, La Croix, Sheboygan, and Anse Keewenaw, Behold! these Indians are really civilized; they possess the virtues and fine qualities of civilized people, without being tainted with their vices and immoralities.

I have the honor to be, with the highest consideration, your very obedient servant,

PETER B. LEFEVRE, *Bp., &c.*

WM. SPRAGUE, Esq.,
Acting Sup't Indian Affairs, Michigan.

No. 6.

OLD WING MISSION,
Grand Traverse, October 6, 1852.

DEAR SIR: I send you the following as my annual report:

Last fall the crops were very light, and many of the Indians went up the lake to spend the winter hunting for a subsistence, and the winter continued so late last spring, that many who remained north suffered for provisions, and many horses died; and the Indians, I am told, were forced to eat their flesh to keep from starvation. In our immediate neighborhood, there was no particular suffering. Owing to the newness of the fields, the crops were better than in some other settlements.

As soon as winter set in, I opened the school and continued it until the commencement of sugaring. The scholars improve well while in school, but it is very important for the children, and in fact for the old and young, that they continue more steadily at home. I think, however, they are improving. During the past year our meetings have been well attended—often with deep interest. It is in the renovating influence of the Gospel, as well as in the intellectual advancement, that we look for the power which will raise the red man to the condition of the enlightened white man, and fit him to mingle in the circles of refined society. As a nation, I think we owe this to him; as an individual, I mean to do all that I can to accomplish the object; and everything that refines the manners, rectifies the moral feelings, enlightens the mind, fixes the being to his residence, gives him an interest in property, makes him industrious, and raises his affections up to God, the giver of every blessing, tends to accomplish this noble end. We think we see a decided advancement in all these respects.

We have to lament that there are men who have, during the past season, come from Grand Haven here with a small vessel to sell whiskey to the Indian, and some have been taken in the snare. Oh, that men could find some honest employment by which to get a living, and not so recklessly, for petty gain, sow misery and ruin around them! Not having visited our friends for seven years, I thought it my duty to take my family out last summer to spend a short time for that purpose, and to have a short release from the anxious cares of the mission. I made my journey on the coast in a small boat, for several reasons—one was to visit the Indians along the coast, to induce them to come here and settle. I obtained a pledge from two chiefs, and others, that they would come next spring. I preached a few times to them, and hope I left some good impressions and an influence to check that wandering, drunken habit which so many of them have been addicted to. On account of head-winds we did not get home in time to attend payment, and both Mrs. Smith and myself have had the fever and ague since our return, but we are improving now.

Here let me add one word, viz: it is most sincerely to be hoped that the payment may be moved from so corrupting a place as Mackinac to some point that the agent can control. The crops here are very good this fall.

I am, most sincerely, your humble servant,

GEO. N. SMITH.

Hon. WILLIAM SPRAGUE.

No. 7.

SAGINAW, *October* 6, 1852.

DEAR SIR: I herewith transmit to you a brief statement of the state of the Indian missions among the Chippewas of Saginaw. There have been two white missionaries employed the last year on the mission, four native teachers and interpreters, and one white teacher.

Five schools at different bands have been taught for the benefit of the Indian youth, at which there have been about one hundred and eighty children taught the rudiments of the English language, many of whom have made good progress in learning. The usual course of instruction pursued in common schools among the whites has been had here.

There are about four hundred adults who make a profession of the Christian religion, many of whom exhibit in their lives the virtues of the Christian. These Indian bands have almost all abandoned their Heathen customs, and, if not heartily, have nominally adopted the white man's religion. To effect an entire and rapid advance in civilization, they only need a home—land enough to make each family a farm that they can feel secure to call their own. And I hope and pray that such may be the case soon.

Your most obedient,

G. BRADLY,
Superintendent Indian Mission.

Hon. WILLIAM SPRAGUE.

No. 8.

Falls of Wolf River, Wisconsin,
Menomonee Territory, *November* 2, 1852.

Sir: In conformity with my report, dated at Powwa-ha-conna, the 16th ultimo, the Menomonees commenced their emigration on the 19th ultimo, and I have now the honor to report that they have been removed by Messrs. Thompson and Ewing, in pursuance of their contract, to this place.

Lake Powwa-ha-conna, the place where the Indians embarked, is notable as being the location of a Catholic mission and school. The mission is under the charge of the Rev. B. F. Bonduel, who, besides his duties as pastor, has a school in which Indian boys are taught. The girls are taught by Mrs. Dousman and her daughter, Miss Jane Dousman, both of whom have resided here several years. I have been exceedingly interested in these ladies. Amiable, intelligent, and accomplished, they are fitted for the very highest circles of society—in which they have evidently moved; but, with the meekness and humility of the true Christian, they prefer, to the cold and heartless ceremonies of fashionable life, the more pleasant and philanthropic duty of training up the rude children of the forest to intelligence and christianity. They illustrate, in their lives, some of the highest excellencies of female character, but especially that true spirit of genuine Christian benevolence which has made woman, everywhere, and in all ages, the nearest link which binds humanity to the angelic world. Mr. Bonduel is a native of France, and is highly educated. He sprang from a wealthy family, and inherited a fortune, which, at the time he came to the United States, amounted to thirty or forty thousand dollars. Devoted, however, to the priesthood, for which he was educated, he chose rather to employ the energies of his fine intellect in the work of ameliorating the condition of savage life, than the less adventurous field of religious duty at home. He entered, therefore, very early in life, into the field of missionary labor among the Indian tribes, and has now been engaged in this laborious work for nearly thirty years. He has resided among several tribes, but for some years has been exclusively among the Menomonees, to whom he is attached alike by a sense of religious duty and the strong chords of sympathy. Under his care and teaching a considerable portion—nearly one-third—of the tribe have become christianized, and a number of the younger members are rapidly advancing in education. Some of them read and write very well. It is highly interesting to see him in his humble chapel, with his little Christian flock around him, chaunting the hymns of the Catholic church in their native tongue. As he recites the solemn prayer which ages of Christian usage have consecrated, they look upon him with eyes filled with Christian sympathy and beaming forth with the most intense anxiety, and, with the most proper observance of time, they break forth in their responses with a voice as deep, rich, and mellow as the flute. Although an observer like myself may not understand a single word, yet he could not fail to see that the whole ceremony of worship is marked not only by Christian simplicity but by Christian purity of thought and intention.

In obedience to your instructions I have diligently superintended the removal, and am happy to certify that it has been effected in a peaceful, comfortable, and satisfactory manner. They have been abundantly supplied with transportation, and good and wholesome provisions. No complaint has been made to me, and no instance of discontent has been noticed by me. On the contrary, the Indians expressed their entire satisfaction in regard to their removal, and have this day, in council, presented their thanks to the contractors for their kindness in providing to make their journey smooth and comfortable. They are now encamped on their new home, and appear to be highly satisfied with the territory selected for them.

In the course of the removal, it was found most convenient for those living on the Oconto and Menomonee rivers to remove by the way of the Oconto river and Shawano lake, which empties into Wolf river eight miles below the falls at this place. The portage was only three miles. Mr. John Jacobs was selected by the contractors to supply and lead this band; and I detailed my son, Harvey L. Murray, to superintend the removal and devote himself to their comfort, and see that they lacked nothing which the contract provided for them. His report is herewith enclosed. I cannot omit saying that the selection of Mr. Jacobs to lead this band was most fortunate and judicious. He is a capable, discreet, and energetic man, high in the confidence of the Menomonees, and deservedly respected by all.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

E. MURRAY,
Superintendent, &c.

Hon. L. Lea,
Com. Ind. Aff's, Washington City.

No. 9.

Falls of Wolf River, Wisconsin,
Menomonee Territory, November 2, 1852.

Sir: In obedience to your instructions I repaired, on the 16th, to the Oconto river, to superintend the removal of that portion of the Menomonees residing on the Oconto, and have faithfully attended to the duty assigned me of seeing the Indians well provided for by the contractors, and comfortably removed to this place.

The removal has been effected in a manner entirely satisfactory to the Indians, and very creditable to the contractors, who had deputed Mr. John Jacobs to procure supplies and lead the band. Mr. Jacobs is well educated and highly esteemed. His provision for the band, and care over them, merit the highest praise, and command their warmest thanks and approbation.

The band, consisting of seven hundred, are all here, and comfortably encamped.

Respectfully, yours,

H. L. MURRAY.

E. Murray,
Superintendent, &c.

No. 10.

Minnesota Superintendency,
Saint Paul, October 26, 1852.

Sir: Since my last annual report there has been but little change in the condition of the Indians in this region. Good health has generally prevailed among the different tribes. The long-continued hostilities which have separated the Chippewa and the Sioux have been, in a measure, terminated by the precautions of officers in the Indian service. So far as open outbreaks are concerned, hostilities are now chiefly restricted to the northern Chippewas and the Sioux of the plains. With these Indians the government has had very little intercourse, and can be expected to exert but a limited influence. The bands that are in receipt of annuities, and convenient to our military posts, are gradually being brought under control; and in their instance much has been done, by the annual distribution of payments, to soften the inveterate national prejudices which a long lapse of time, and the succession of many generations, have been unable to remove. In this respect a favorable influence has been secured by means of the annuity system; and it might be well to consider how far an extension of it to the more distant Chippewas and Sioux would lead to a like result, by enlarging the immediate authority which there would be exercised over them by the agents of government.

Among rude nations many causes combine to keep alive the passion for war. Of these it is sufficient to notice two. Though mostly strangers to the idea of separate property vested in any individual, savage societies well understand the rights of each tribe to its own domain. Of these rights they are tenacious; and as their territories are extensive, and the boundaries of them not exactly ascertained, they easily find subjects of dispute in conflicting pretensions to the same lands. Again, the American Indians are divided into petty communities, and can take the war-path only in small parties. The number of men in each tribe is so insignificant that each warrior is conscious of the importance of his own arm, and feels that to it is committed a considerable portion of the public vengeance. Thus, war, which between populous nations is carried on with little animosity, is prosecuted by small tribes with all the rancor of a private quarrel. To the latter cause, also, may, in part, be ascribed the habitual caution which Indians manifest in their hostilities. Their numbers are so feeble that the life of each soldier is precious, and the preservation of it a capital object of policy. Hence in war they display more craft than boldness, using, in fighting, the same arts and stratagem that they do in hunting.

The murder on Pembina river, in June last, of an American citizen by a war party of Yancton Sioux, has already been brought to the notice of the department. It is probable that the offence was committed upon the supposition that the murdered man was a Chippewa half-blood; yet in view of the weakness of the civil and military arm of the government in so distant a region, and the consequent insecurity of our own citizens who may be residing or travelling in that quarter, the rejection by the Senate of the treaty concluded last year at Pembina is

much to be regretted. If the scenes now enacting on the southwestern frontier are not rehearsed upon our northern border, it will be owing less to our own precaution than to sheer good fortune.

The Indians inhabiting the country included in the boundaries of the Territory of Minnesota are Winnebagoes, Chippewas, Dacotahs, (Sioux,) Assinaboins, and Mandans. Of this number the Assinaboins, the Mandans, the Seton, Yancton, and Yanctoni Sioux, and the Chippewas, of Pembina, of Red, Cass, Winnepeg, Rainy, and Vermillion lakes, receive no annuities from government. The remainder have at various times made cessions to the United States, and are generally well provided for. They have lands of exuberant fertility; have farmers and blacksmiths residing among them by appointment of the department: receive large annuities of money and goods; and have schools, medical attendance, and religious instruction, also provided by the government. If, notwithstanding these provisions, it has been difficult to reclaim them to the restraints and the duties of civilized life, it is but fair to consider that nothing is more easy or common than to find men who have been educated in all the habits and comforts of improved society willing to exchange them for the wild labors of the hunter and the trapper. The very amusements most pursued and relished by men of all conditions, whose constitutions permit active exercise, are hunting, fishing, and in some instances war—the natural and heretofore almost necessary occupation of the savage.

It does not appear that the Assinaboins have ever, at any time, entered into treaty arrangements with the government of the United States.

With the Mandans only one treaty has been made—a treaty of peace and friendship, concluded at the Mandan village on the thirtieth day of July, A. D. 1825; Henry Atkinson, brevet-general United States army, and Benjamin O'Fallon, United States Indian agent, commissioners on part of the United States.

With the Winnebagoes eight treaties have, at different times, been formed. Of these the earliest is a treaty of peace, made at St. Louis on the third day of June, 1816, with that portion of the tribe then residing on the Wisconsin river. In four treaties the Winnebagoes made cessions of land, for which they now receive annuities from the government. In the treaty of August 1, 1829, at Prairie du Chien, 2,530,000 acres were ceded for an aggregate consideration of $751,400—$717,800 consideration in money, goods, &c., and $33,600 consideration in land, estimating the land at $1 25 per acre. In the treaty of September 15, 1832, at Fort Armstrong, Rock island, Illinois, Major General Winfield Scott and Governor John Reynolds, United States commissioners, 2,816,000 acres were ceded for $2,945,482 aggregate consideration; $440,682 consideration in money, goods, &c., and $2,504,800 consideration in land. In the treaty of November 1, 1837, made at Washington, 5,000,000 acres were ceded for $1,500,000 consideration in money, goods, &c. In the treaty of October 13, 1846, also made at Washington, 2,003,840 acres were ceded for $1,190,000 aggregate consideration; $190,000 consideration in money, goods, &c., and $1,000,000 consideration in land. The treaty of 1846 is the latest treaty made by the United States with this tribe. In it they ceded all

lands, wherever situated, then or theretofore occupied or claimed by them, within the States and Territories of the United States, and especially that tract of country called the "Neutral Ground," which was assigned to them by the second article of the treaty of Fort Armstrong, concluded on the fifteenth day of September, 1832, and ratified on the thirteenth day of February following. In part consideration of this cession, the United States agreed "to purchase and give to the said Indians, as their home, to be held as all Indians' lands are held, a tract of country north of St. Peter and west of the Mississippi rivers, of not less than eight hundred thousand acres, which shall be suitable to their habits, wants, and wishes: *Provided*, Such land can be obtained on just and reasonable terms." (Art. 3, treaty Oct. 13, 1846.) Under this provision the Winnebagoes hold the lands which they now occupy in this territory, lying on the west side of the Mississippi river, above the Watal, and divided from the country purchased in 1847 of the Pillager Chippewas by the Long Prairie and Crow-wing rivers.

With the Chippewa tribe, in its various branches, the United States have, from time to time, concluded no less than twenty-nine different treaties. The earliest negotiations made with them are found in a treaty concluded at Fort McIntosh, on the Ohio river, on the twenty-first day of January, A. D. 1785, in which "the commissioners plenipotentiary of the United States, in Congress assembled, give peace to the Wyandot, Delaware, *Chippewa*, and Ottowa nation of Indians," on certain conditions. In point of time, this ranks as the third Indian treaty made by the United States; dating back more than two years prior to the formation of our present constitution. One of the articles considerately stipulates, "that the Delaware chiefs, Kelelamand, or Lieutenant Colonel Henry, Hengue Pushees, or the Big Cat, Wiecocalind, or Captain White Eyes, who took up the hatchet for the United States, and their families, shall be received into the Delaware nation, in the same situation and rank as before the war, and enjoy their due portions of the lands given to the Wyandot and Delaware nations in this treaty, as fully as if they had not taken part with America, or as any other person or persons in the said nations." The most important treaties to which the Chippewas have at any time been parties, are the treaties of 1837 and of 1842. In these, they ceded to this government all their possessions in Michigan and Wisconsin, comprising the rich mineral district which extends along the south coast of Lake Superior and the valuable pine forests which skirt Black, Chippewa, St. Croix, Rum, and Wisconsin rivers, and tributaries. For these cessions, the United States agreed to pay them in money, goods, &c., the sum of $1,865,000, in manner and form as prescribed in the treaties. Article five of the treaty of 1837, and articles two and six of the treaty of 1842, provided for their continuance upon the ceded territory, with the usual privileges of occupancy, until required to remove by the President of the United States. An order for removal, in accordance with treaty stipulations, was issued by the late President Taylor on the sixth day of February, 1850; and since that time, the enterprise of colonizing the Chippewas upon their own lands, in this Territory, has been prosecuted as, from time to time, reported to the department.

With the Dacotah tribe, in its different divisions, fifteen treaties have, at various times, been formed. The earliest negotiations made with them are recorded in four treaties, concluded at "Portage des Sioux" on the nineteenth day of July, 1815, with different bands of the tribe; said bands being desirous of reëstablishing peace and friendship with the United States, "and of being placed in all things, and in every respect, on the same footing upon which they stood before the late war between the United States and Great Britain." The most important treaties to which this tribe has been a party, are the treaties of 1837, and the two treaties of 1851. In the former, concluded at the city of Washington on the twenty-ninth day of September, 1837, Joel R. Poinsett, commissioner, on part of the United States, the Medawaykantoan Sioux ceded to this government all their land east of the Mississippi river, and all their islands in the said river. For this cession, computed at five millions of acres, the United States stipulated to pay the sum of one million dollars. The consideration agreed to be paid for the lands acquired in the treaties of July 23, 1851, at Traverse des Sioux, and of August 5, 1851, at Mendota, will not vary much in sum from $3,250,000. The whole quantity of land embraced in the cession made by these treaties is estimated at about thirty millions of acres.

It is unnecessary to state that, from the manner in which the money stipulated in the different treaties to which reference has been made is to be paid and expended for the benefit of the Indians, a large part of the principal being retained, to be absolved and paid off by the interest, the actual cost to the government of the lands purchased is much less than the price nominally paid.

On the first day of January, 1852, there were employed at the several agencies in this superintendency, forty-seven persons, exclusive of agents, at an aggregate annual cost of twenty-one thousand six hundred and fifty-six dollars. Of this number, there were employed among the Winnebago Indians, twenty persons, at an expense of $9,296; among the Chippewas, eleven persons, at an expense of $5,380; and among the Medawaykantoan Sioux, sixteen persons, at an expense of $6,980. The character of each kind of service, and its compensation, are shown in the following table:

Tribe.	Service.	No.	Pay.	Amount.
Winnebago	Physician	1	$1,000 00 per annum	$1,000 00
	Superintendent of school	1	600 00 ....do....	600 00
	Teachers	4	480 00 ....do....	1,920 00
	Interpreter	1	400 00 ....do....	400 00
	Farmer	1	600 00 ....do....	600 00
	Blacksmiths	3	480 00 ....do....	1,440 00
	Assistant smiths	2	240 00 ....do....	480 00
	Carpenter	1	38 00 per month	456 00
	Overseer of laborers	1	37 00 ....do....	444 00
	Laborer for school	1	35 00 ....do....	420 00
	Laborers	4	32 00 ....do....	1,536 00
		20		9,296 00

TABLE—Continued.

Tribe.	Service.	No.	Pay.	Amount.
Chippewa	Interpreter	1	$400 00 per annum	$400 00
	Blacksmiths	4	600 00....do....	2,400 00
	Assistant smiths	2	240 00....do....	480 00
	Farmers	3	500 00....do....	1,500 00
	Carpenter	1	600 00....do....	600 00
		11		5,380 00
Sioux	Physician	1	500 00 per annum	500 00
	Interpreter	1	400 00....do....	400 00
	Blacksmiths	2	600 00....do....	1,200 00
	Assistant smiths	2	240 00....do....	480 00
	Teachers	2	500 00....do....	1,000 00
	Superintendent of farming	1	600 00....do....	600 00
	Farmers	7	400 00....do....	2,800 00
		16		6,980 00
	Total	47		21,656 00

Among the Winnebagoes seven hundred acres of land have been planted and cultivated during the year—five hundred at Long Prairie, the seat of the government agency, and two hundred on the Mississippi river. The estimated product of the two farms is nine thousand bushels of oats, thirteen thousand bushels of corn, twelve thousand of turnips, and one hundred tons of hay; besides potatoes and garden vegetables. A mill has been in operation at this agency since April, which is reported capable of turning out five thousand feet of lumber every twenty-four hours. A run of stone attached to it will, in the same time, grind two hundred and fifty bushels of grain.

Among the Chippewas three hundred acres have been in cultivation.

Among the Medawaykantoan Sioux, eighty-five acres have been planted at Little Crow village; seventy at Red Wing; sixty at Wabashaw; thirty at Black Dog; twenty at Shakapee's; twenty at Good Roads, and twenty at Lake Calhoun; in all, three hundred and five acres.

Mission stations and schools have been in operation at the following localities: Among the Winnebagoes, at Long Prairie; among the Chippewas, at La Pointe, Red lake, Pembina, Sandy lake, and Bad river; and among the Sioux, at Red Wing, Kaposia, Oak Grove, Traverse des Sioux, and Lac qui Parle. The number of persons, of both sexes, who during the year have been connected with these missions, is upwards of fifty.

Two hundred and eleven years ago the religious zeal of the French had planted the Cross among the Chippewas residing upon the confines of Lake Superior. This was five years "before the New England Eliot had addressed the tribe of Indians that dwelt within six miles of Boston harbor." From that time to this, missionary labors have been prosecuted among the Indians of the Northwest, almost without interruption; and, in one sense, it must also be added, almost without success. Though the savage has an instinctive sentiment that his own

fate and that of the universe are ruled by some supreme and invisible power, he sees this only through the medium of his wishes and imagination. He seeks for some object of veneration and means of protection which may assume an outward and tangible shape; reposes his faith in charms, capable of being attached to his person, and of affording a feeling of security amid the evils that surround him; and "puts his trust in the sagacity of the sorcerer, who comes forth from a heated, pent-up lodge, and, with all the convulsions of enthusiasm, utters a confused medley of sounds as oracles."

For this reason it has been common to decry, as a failure, the establishment of missions among Indians; because, in the main end these religious enterprises have had in view, they have fallen short of the success they deserve. But the observation and experience of several years have impressed me with a high sense of the importance of mission efforts, and taught me to admire the zeal with which they have been sustained under the most discouraging circumstances. The missionaries in this region have uniformly been useful auxiliaries to the government, and, in a thousand ways, of incalculable service to the Indian. Nor is the savage the only person who has been profited by their labors; in various forms civilized man derives advantage from their privations and toil.

Within a few months, the Smithsonian Institution, at Washington, has published, among its "Contributions to Knowledge," a grammar and copious dictionary of the Dacotah language. For this new and interesting addition to philological literature, science is indebted to the missionary enterprise among the Sioux Indians. The preparation of the volume, says the editor, (Rev. S. R. Riggs,) "may be regarded as one of the contributions to science made by the great missionary enterprise of the present age. It was not premeditated, but has been a result altogether incidental to our work. Our object was to preach the gospel to the Dacotahs in their own language, and to teach them to read and write the same, until their circumstances should be so changed as to enable them to learn the English. Hence we were led to study their language, and to endeavor to arrive at a knowledge of its principles." Thus have the patient labors and literary cultivation of the missionaries among the Dacotahs produced a work which will be an enduring monument to connect the names of the compilers in honorable and lasting remembrance with the great subject of American philology.

I am not aware that full vocabularies have been formed, either of the Chippewa or Winnebago languages. Under direction of the department, memorials of these tongues might be perpetuated at little expense, and the records preserved in manuscript, until time and convenience should admit of their being put in print. In 1847 efforts were made, under the auspices of the government, to collect Indian vocabularies; and it is stated that "several valuable memoirs have been received, in answer to this requisition, from persons in various quarters of the United States, who have made the Indian languages their study; and that a large collection of original vocabularies, and numerical and geographical terms, has been made."

Why may not a systematic attempt be again made, by the Bureau of Indian Affairs, to reduce to writing, collect, and preserve the dialects

of all the Indian tribes within its jurisdiction? The undertaking is worthy of an enlightened government, and is too great for private enterprise, or even learned associations, to attempt. "It is to be lamented," says Mr. Jefferson, in his Notes on Virginia, "very much to be lamented that we have suffered so many Indian tribes already to disappear without our having previously collected, and deposited in the records of literature, the general rudiments, at least, of the languages they spoke." The present materials are so limited that the labor of determining and classifying the Indian languages cannot be satisfactorily attempted until the collection of vocabularies and grammars is more complete. "Those individuals," says Mr. Schoolcraft, "who have directed their inquiries most successfully to the subject, have manifestly labored under great disadvantage from the paucity and incompleteness of their materials, the vague and unsatisfactory nature of some of them, and the great want of uniformity in the orthography, and, consequently, general comparative value of all." It is unnecessary to hint at the inferences, familiar to ethnographers, which would be deduced from a comparison of vocabularies, and observation of points of resemblance in different idioms. An ample collection of Indian dialects would enable the student to satisfactorily group the tribes speaking allied languages, and shed much light upon many interesting questions connected with the past history of the aboriginal races on this continent. It is to be hoped that the publication of the Dacotah grammar and lexicon will succeed in directing that attention to this subject which it deserves, and thereby, in some manner, secure the thorough exploration of a field which holds out unusual attractions to the philologist and ethnographer. In this way the future inquirer, with better opportunities, and more extensive materials, may be able to arrive at some definite conclusions in regard to the derivation and past movements of the American races.

In a communication dated January 29, 1852, I had the honor to submit to the consideration of the department a proposition from the Winnebago tribe of Indians to relinquish to the United States the country which they now occupy in this Territory, with all the improvements that have, from time to time, been made thereon, in exchange for an adjoining tract, of some 500,000 acres, included in the late Sioux purchase, and situated immediately north of the Crow river. In the report of the Winnebago agent, hereto appended, several reasons are urged in favor of this transfer deserving of consideration. The main objection to the exchange consists, I conceive, in the impolicy of surrendering back to Indian dominion lands to which the Indian title has once been extinguished. In balancing, however, the probable advantages of the transfer, against the evils of which it may be productive, this objection may lose much of its force. It is believed that the district on Crow river, though south of the present country of the Winnebagoes, is still sufficiently far north not to interfere with our white population for many years to come. With their present location these Indians will never be satisfied. They continually urge that an imposition was practised in colonizing them upon it; that it is not the country they had in view in agreeing to the treaty of 1846, and that it is a wooded region, overgrown with trees and underbrush, and,

in this respect, unsuitable for them, and very different from the more open country they had been accustomed to occupy further south. The tract upon Crow river is diversified with prairie and oak openings, and as it adjoins their present territory, the removal of the tribe can be made without expense to the government.

During the present autumn an entire change has been made in the management of the Winnebago school, pursuant to an order issued from the Office of Indian Affairs, dated the 28th day of July last. As schools merely of a literary or religious character can be productive of but little good among Indians, it is desirable that the manual-labor system should be strictly adhered to in the future conduct of this school.

It is understood that the Stockbridge Indians have selected a location for themselves in this Territory, but they have not yet removed upon it. The Menomonees, also, have not as yet been colonized upon the tract of country purchased for them, in 1847, of the Pillager Chippewas. What disposition the government may intend finally to make of this tribe I am uninformed.

Notwithstanding the efforts that have been made, and the expense incurred, during the last two years, to effect the removal of the Chippewas remaining in Michigan and Wisconsin, a considerable number still continue indisposed to migrate to the country appropriated to them in this Territory. By a rigid adherence, however, to the rule of paying only those who remove to and remain permanently upon their own lands, it is expected that the entire Chippewa tribe will finally be concentrated about the headwaters of the Mississippi, without any necessity being imposed upon the government of actively employing other means to effect a removal. They have been given distinctly to understand that there will be no further payments of annuities made upon the ceded lands, and that hereafter they will be paid, and all the goods and provisions to which they are entitled be distributed, in the vicinity of the Mississippi river. I know of no good reason why the government should vary this policy, unless, indeed, it be in the case of the Chippewas of L'Anse; and, in their instance, using the discretion given me over the whole subject by the department, I have directed that, for the present, the payment of annuities should be continued as heretofore.

The country reserved in this Territory for the occupancy of the Chippewas is, in every respect, suited to their tastes and habits of life. It is a watery region, in which, during six months of the year, no use can be made of either horses or carriages, and in which, during this time, recourse must be had to bark canoes. A multitude of lakes spangle its surface—the remains, no doubt, of a vast sea that once covered the whole country, extending north from the Gulf of Mexico, and perhaps reaching to Hudson's bay. These lakes constitute the prominent feature of the country, and are the reservoirs of many of the more remote sources, both of the Red river of the North and of the Mississippi, feeding the waters that empty into Hudson's bay and those which discharge themselves into the Gulf of Mexico. Innumerable fish abound in them, supplying to the Indians an ample equivalent for any fisheries that they may relinquish upon Lake Superior. Flocks of wild fowl congregate about their waters to nestle amidst and fatt n upon the wild

rice. From Mr. Nicollet, the latest and most accurate authority, the following description of the lakes is taken:

"They are distributed in separate groups, or are arranged in prolonged chains along the rivers, and not unfrequently attached to each other by gentle rapids. It has seemed to me that they diminish in extent on both sides of the Mississippi, as we proceed southwardly, as far as 43° of north latitude; and this observation extends to the Arctic region, commencing at Bear's lake, or Slave lake, Winnepeg lake, &c. It may be further remarked that the basins of these lakes have a sufficient depth to leave no doubt that they will remain characteristic features of the country for a long time to come. Several species of fish abound in them. The white fish *(corregonus albus)* is found in all the deep lakes west of the Mississippi, and, indeed, from Lake Erie to the Polar sea. That which is taken in Leech lake is said by amateurs to be more highly flavored than even that of Lake Superior, and weighs from three to ten pounds. There is another species of this white fish, called by the Indians *tuliby*, or *ottuniby*, (the *corregonus artedi,)* which resembles it, but is much less esteemed. Both species furnish a wholesome and palatable food. Among the other species of fish that inhabit these waters are the *mashkinonge*, or *mashkilonge;* the pike, or jack-fish; the pickerel, or gilt carp; the sucker, or true carp; the perch; a species of trout called by the Chippewas *namogus*, &c., &c. These lakes, which are somewhat deep, swarm with leeches; and, among the amphibious reptiles, there are several species of terrapin and turtle, of which Mr. Say has described three of each kind in the appendix to the second expedition of Major Long."

During the past summer the Chippewa agency has been removed from Sandy lake to a point on the extreme southern line of the Chippewa territory, ten miles from the confluence of the Crow-wing and Mississippi rivers. From Sandy lake, which is in about latitude 46° 45′, the present agency is distant, in a southwesterly direction, some one hundred and fifty miles. Of course this removal is merely temporary. The expense attending it has been kept within the most economical limit, and will not exceed two or three hundred dollars.

In previous annual reports I have urged the policy of obtaining the consent of the Pillager Chippewas to the permanent establishment, at Leech lake, of the agency for the whole Chippewa tribe, from Sault Ste. Marie to the Red river of the North. I again take the liberty of renewing this recommendation, convinced that Leech lake is the most suitable site for the agency, and, in many respects, the appropriate point from which to extend an influence over this widely-dispersed people. The different divisions of the tribe should be consolidated in their interests; hold their lands by tenancy in common; and occupy uniform treaty relations with the government of the United States.

On the twenty-third day of July last the Senate of the United States ratified the two treaties which were concluded in the summer of 1851 with the Dacotah Indians, with an amendment striking from each an article reserving for the future occupancy of the Indians a district of country situated within the boundaries of the ceded territory. They also introduced other amendments of less importance.

On the return of the treaties to this office thus amended, they were

again submitted to the Indians for their concurrence: and on the fourth and eighth days of September last the different bands, parties to the treaties of Mendota and Traverse des Sioux, signified their assent to the amendments made by the resolution of the Senate; and in this state the treaties have at last received the final approbation of the President.

Thus has an end been achieved, and a measure accomplished in all its parts, which is not alone important to the Indians, but of vital consequence to the Territory of Minnesota and the whole Northwest. The negotiations, though retarded by various occurrences in different stages of their progress, are now happily ended, and have become a past transaction; and, in view of the labor and responsibility which their management has imposed upon your office, and the prominent part borne by yourself in their conduct, it is a source of much satisfaction to know that they have been finally and successfully terminated under the present direction of the Bureau of Indian Affairs.

With the experience the government of the United States has had in negotiating treaties with Indian tribes, it is a wonder that the whole system has not long since been exploded. Our Indians are in that state of nature which has passed the association of a single family; but not yet submitted to the authority of positive laws, or of any acknowledged rule. Their political union is so incomplete, their civil regulations so few and of such slender authority, that they are to be viewed rather as independent agents than as members of a regular society. What is before their eyes interests and affects them; what is out of sight or at a distance makes little impression; and it seems absurd that the government should place itself on an equal footing in treating with hordes of savages totally incapable of transacting public business, and having neither foresight nor temper to form complicated arrangements with respect to their future conduct. Again, among savages the range of ideas is so narrow that they are taciturn in communicating their sentiments and wishes, and distrustful in placing confidence in others. This accustoms them to a disingenuous subtlety in their public transactions, which is not at all impaired by the habits of craft they acquire in the two absorbing pursuits of their lives—hunting and war. But the principal evil in this system of treaties lies in the power which is given to a circle of trading interests to obstruct, if not entirely defeat, the policy of government. Indians are to a great extent under the immediate influence of their traders; and the counsel given by these is generally supposed to be dictated somewhat by a view to private advantage. The government should deal liberally and kindly with her Indian wards; but she should not place herself in a position where her purposes are liable to be thwarted by the selfishness and avarice of traders, and the caprice and ignorance of savages.

The order, made by the department last spring, transferring from the superintendency at St. Louis to Saint Paul the business of advertising and contracting for the supplies to be furnished by the government to the Indians in Minnesota, has proved in a high degree advantageous, both to the Indians, the government, and the public. By this change the supplies are furnished at a cheaper rate; the cost of transportation is diminished; and the community in the neighborhood of the Indians is profited.

For more detailed information in regard to the affairs of the Indians in the superintendency, reference is made to the reports, appended hereto, of the agents, missionaries, teachers, and farmers among the several tribes.

Respectfully submitted:

ALEX. RAMSEY.

Hon. LUKE LEA,
Commissioner of Indian Affairs.

No. 11.

CHIPPEWA AGENCY,
September 15, 1852.

SIR: In compliance with the regulations of the department, I have the honor to report the condition of affairs at this agency, and the Indians in my charge during the past year.

The past season has been very unfavorable for business, in the vicinity of Sandy lake and Fond du Lac, on account of the heavy rains.

The farms at these two stations have been overflowed; the water at Sandy lake came quite into my house and stood three feet in depth on the floor, and continued at this height for nearly three weeks.

At the removal-farm the crops have been good. The proceeds of this farm are, as nearly as can be ascertained, to wit:

50	acres	rutabaga	20,000	bushels
40	"	corn	12,000	"
40	"	potatoes	8,000	"
16	"	oats	240	"
1	"	beans	16	"

The above has been produced by laborers employed by the month.

The Indians have cultivated at this farm 50 acres in potatoes and corn, from which it is estimated they have 3,000 bushels of potatoes, and 600 bushels of corn. In addition, there have been raised a large quantity of pumpkins and squashes.

There were seed furnished to all the Indians, and the land was ploughed for them; but many were two indolent to plant.

There have been, during the past season, 720 rods of fence made, and 50 acres of prairie broken, by laborers employed; 120 rods of the fence have been constructed to enclose a pasture.

The farm at Gull lake was ploughed, and the fences were put in proper repair last spring, and seed were furnished the Indians. They have raised more than at any former year; still the result has fallen far short of my expectations. I regret to say that they manifest but little disposition to cultivate the soil. The Rabbit Lake and the Mille Sacs bands have raised a sufficient quantity of potatoes, corn, and pumpkins, together with their wild rice, to subsist them during the year.

The change which I have been directed to make in the system of schools among the Chippewas, will, in my opinion, prove to be a beneficial one to the Indians.

The Rev. Sherman Hall has been invited as superintendent of the school. He is a gentleman of long experience among the Indians, possessing much energy of character, and enjoys the confidence and respect of the Indians. It is to be hoped that he will accept the appointment.

In compliance with the instructions of the 9th ultimo, I have removed this agency from Sandy lake and located it west of the Mississippi, on the north bank of the Crow-wing river, 10 miles from its mouth. The original order of the department, (which has recently been renewed,) to pay annuities to those only who remove to, and remain permanently within their own country, will, if steadily maintained, within two years, remove all the Indians yet remaining on the ceded lands.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. S. WATROUS.

Indian Agent.

His Excellency ALEX. RAMSEY,

Supt. Indian Affairs, and Governor of Minnesota Territory.

No. 12.

LA POINTE, WISCONSIN,
September 10, 1852.

SIR: I have the honor to present to you the following report of the mission of the American Board of Commissioners for Foreign Missions among the Chippewa Indians, for the year ending this date.

No material change has been made in our mission since my last annual report. Notwithstanding the order to the Indians of this region to remove to the unceded lands, and your notice to us that, under your instructions, you could not allow us any further aid from the fund for educational purposes, after the 30th of June, 1851, for the support of our schools, if continued on territory from which the Indians were about to be removed, we have, as heretofore, maintained a school at each of our stations at the expense of the society. We have had no design, however, in doing this, to oppose the purposes and measures of the government, or to throw obstacles in the way to the removal of the Indians; but things were in so unsettled a state with regard to them, that it was impossible for us to decide what changes ought to be made in our operations among them. The removal was not likely immediately to fix this portion of them permanently in any portion of their country. The removal of one or both of our stations would necessarily involve considerable expense, and might have to be repeated in a year or two. Besides this, many of the Indians and half-breeds refused to remove at once, and under all the circumstances it appeared to us that we might benefit them as much by continuing our establishments for the time being where they were as by attempting to make any immediate changes. Moreover, we had not been informed what would be the character of the schools which would receive the patronage of the government, nor where they would be located. We wished to ascertain this point before commencing any new establishments, so as not to interfere with any contemplated arrangements of theirs.

Our mission has two stations: one is at La Pointe, and the other on Bad river, about fifteen miles distant. The following persons are connected as laborers with the station at La Pointe: Rev. S. Hall, missionary; Charles Pulsifer, school-teacher; Mrs. Hall and Mrs. Pulsifer; Henry Blatchford, native catechist and interpreter. Those connected with the station on Bad river are Rev. S. H. Wheeler, missionary; Mrs. Wheeler and Miss A Spooner, teacher and assistant.

The school at La Pointe has been under the instruction of Mr. C. Pulsifer during the past year. The following table exhibits the attendance of the children connected with this school, and the studies pursued:

Attendance.

Whole number of scholars	40
Number of males	26
Number of females	14
Average number each day	13½

Studies.

Number attending each day—

Written arithmetic	9
Mental arithmetic	9
Geography	10
History of United States	3
English grammar	2
Book-keeping	4
Composition	9
Reading, spelling, and defining	30

Fifteen have been learning to write.

Remarks.

The Bible is read daily, and questions asked and explanations given. Ten have not attended long enough to be able to read.

This school has been subject to some interruptions during the past year. In October it was discontinued for a time on account of the Indians and half-breeds being called to Fond du Lac to receive their annuity payment. In the winter it was again suspended for a little time on account of sickness and death in the mission family

The average attendance has been a little less than during the preceding year. The cause of this may be attributed principally, though not wholly, to the removal, and to an epidemic which prevailed in this neighborhood during the past summer. Scarcely a family has escaped, the disease being the scarlatina. The number of deaths has been small in proportion to the number of cases, and of those nearly all were children; none, however, connected with the school have died. The station on Bad river has been maintained without interruption during the past year. The school has been taught by Miss A. Spooner. During

last fall, for several weeks, the average attendance was about twenty; during the winter, the average attendance was eleven; during the months of May and June, the average attendance was about twenty-two. There have been about ninety different children in this school since last spring. A large proportion of the children reported as connected with this school have been very irregular in their attendance, and the number has varied very much at different seasons of the year. This is to be accounted for partly from the fact that the Indians, with the exception of a few families, encamp near this station only at certain seasons, and partly on account of the unwillingness of the children to endure the restraints, and confinement of a school, and their insubordination to their parents, and the indifference of parents to the education of their children.

S. HALL,
Superintendent of the schools of the A. B. C. F. M. among the Chippewa Indians.

Major J. S. Watrous.

No. 13.

Oberlin, *November* 6, 1852.

Dear Sir: I have the honor herewith to transmit to you my second annual report of the mission school, under the care of the A. M. A., among the Ojibwa Indians, at Red lake, in Minnesota Territory, for the year ending May 31, 1852.

The school has been taught ten months during the year. We have employed a male and female teacher.

Number of scholars registered, eighteen; average attendance, twelve.

Reading and spelling, writing and geography, have been taught. Nine have been taught writing and one geography.

Those who commenced with the alphabet, at the beginning of the year, now read in the Third Reader of the eclectic series, and write a legible hand. All have made rapid improvement. Singing is also taught by an experienced teacher, and the children have made good proficiency in the art. The girls are also taught to sew and knit, and do housework.

Four children have been boarded and clad by the mission the whole year, and six others the last six months of the year. We have at the present date fourteen boarding-scholars, and intend to increase the number to twenty-five or thirty as soon as we can erect suitable buildings for their accommodation.

During the last spring the Indians were assisted more than formerly by the mission in clearing and breaking up their ground. Consequently, many of them are cultivating double the amount of land they have done before. Some were so anxious to enlarge their fields that they cleared considerable land themselves, without aid, carrying off all the timber by hand.

Two members of the mission labored for them, most of the time, with two yoke of oxen, for sixteen days.

The mission will not be able to afford them as much assistance

another year, for want of the necessary teams. This will no doubt be an evil, as many of them are anxious to enlarge their fields, and would probably clear double the amount of land if it could be ploughed for them.

Since my last annual report, the station at Lake Winnepee has been abandoned in consequence of depredations committed by the Indians in robbing their gardens and killing their cattle.

A new station has been commenced on the north side of Red lake, at a place called by the Indians, *Uebashing*, *i. e.*, a strait or place where the wind blows through. Our missionaries are now erecting buildings at that place, but will not be able to commence a school before another season.

The Cass Lake station has been greatly crippled the past year in consequence of having their oxen killed by the Indians. One cow was also killed at Red lake. These depredations were committed by a few of the offscourings of the bands, led on by some vicious Indians from Lake Superior. The chiefs and principal men were opposed to their proceedings. The Indians are generally very friendly to the missionaries, and seem anxious to improve their own condition; but it is almost impossible for them to change their habits until they are assisted. They are at times reduced to circumstances of great suffering for want of the necessaries of life, and more or less of them die of starvation every year. They sometimes resort even to human flesh to satisfy the cravings of hunger. A year ago last winter, the most shocking case of cannibalism that I ever heard of occurred among the Indians west of Cass lake: an Indian, with his wife, two daughters, and a son-in-law, killed and ate fifteen persons, and most of them were their own children and grand-children. Many of the principal men among them begin to realize that they must change their habits or perish, and are disposed to do what they can to improve their condition.

The Indians at Red lake have the best soil of any band in that part of the country, and we shall make that the most prominent point of our operations among them. We design to keep up our schools at the other stations, but think it best to expend all the funds now appropriated by the department in our boarding-school at Red lake.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. P. BARDWELL,
Agent of A. M. A.

Hon. L. Lea,
Commissioner of Indian Affairs, Washington, D. C.

No. 14.

Winnebago Agency,
Long Prairie, September 9, 1852.

Sir: In obedience to the regulations of the Indian Department, it again becomes my duty to report the condition of the Indians under my charge.

For exhibit in detail of the operations of the school, mill, and farms within this agency for the past year, you are respectfully referred to

the reports of the teacher of the school, miller, and farmers, herewith submitted.

The Winnebagoes have been, during the past summer, looking with much anxiety and impatience for the order from the department authorizing the change of country asked for by them last winter; and there is little doubt that if such change had been made the whole tribe would have collected and settled permanently at their new home, and the annoyance to the government, growing out of their dissatisfaction with the country assigned them, would have ceased. The delay attending the ratification of the Sioux treaties has heretofore prevented any action in this matter; and should the difficulties in the way of the proposed transfer not soon be removed, I very much fear that a majority of the tribe will continue to lead their present vagrant life to the great annoyance of the entire northwestern frontier.

These Indians have never been satisfied with the country selected for them in Minnesota, and a few years' trial of it seems to have rendered them more and more unwilling to receive it as a final home; but as the district which they preferred and had in view in making the treaty could not at the time be obtained from the Sioux, they consented to accept their present country with the hope that the government would, when in its power, fulfil the spirit of the treaty of 1846. and give them the home of their choice, "north of the St. Peters, and west of the Mississippi."

To any person acquainted with the sentiments and feelings of the Winnebagoes in relation to their present country, the idea of ever inducing any considerable portion of the tribe to reside there will appear almost, if not entirely hopeless.

The topography of their present country is essentially different from that of their former homes amongst the elevated prairies of the Wisconsin and Iowa, the greater part being covered with swamps and almost impenetrable thickets, in addition to which the mosquitoes and other insects, which swarm here during the summer months to a degree unknown in other parts of the country, contribute to render a residence here disagreeable and obnoxious to these children of the prairies.

During the past summer word has been received at this agency from most of the bands now scattered on the Missouri river and in the States of Wisconsin and Iowa, to the effect that they are anxious to return and settle permanently with their brethren, provided the proposed country or any other suitable tract of prairie land in its vicinity can be procured for them; and there is little doubt that the proposed change, if made, would result to the permanent satisfaction of this now much discontented and scattered tribe.

The increased disposition of such of the Winnebagoes as reside within their own country to participate in the benefits of civilization is truly encouraging, and affords tangible evidence that the liberal efforts of the government for their benefit in this regard will, so soon as the tribe can be furnished with a suitable location, result in their entire abandonment of the nomadic life.

Since taking charge of the agency, the proper and successful management of the liberally endowed school of the nation has occupied no little of my thoughts and anxieties. On my arrival here, I found that,

at the instance of Governor Ramsey, Superintendent of Indian Affairs, to whom the department had sometime previously given a *carte blanche* as to the schools, a different system of managing them from that previously pursued was already commenced, with a promise of highly successful results. Duty and inclination alike induced me to favor the new system, as I was anxious to ascertain its legitimate fruits. These, I rejoice to say, more than realize all our expectations; and I doubt not, should the new system be persevered in without faltering or change, that when the generation upon whom it now operates has grown up to adulthood, we shall see the Winnebago nation in a more prosperous and happy condition than it has ever been, especially if, in addition, intoxicating liquors are effectually excluded from their reach, as appears probable from the operation of the stringent liquor law now in force in the Territory; and if, besides, a proper code of laws for the protection of persons and property is introduced and enforced amongst them.

The new system from which such successful results are anticipated, is that commonly known as the manual-labor system of instruction, modified to suit the peculiarities of an Indian school. In this system it is the principal object to teach the boys farming, gardening, and the use of tools generally—in a word, to inculcate habits of regular labor as well as to teach them that skill and those arts by which men labor to the best advantage; and while thus inducing the males to work, at the same time, on the other hand, to train the girls to avocations different from the rude and laborious ones which are the ordinary ones of Indian females—instructing them, instead, in the arts of sewing, garment-making, and cutting, knitting, and in the various pursuits of domestic economy—such as cooking, washing and ironing, &c.

It will be observed that, on this plan of conducting the school, manual labor becomes the principal object of instruction, and that, secondary to this, is a reasonable devotion to literary pursuits, with a view to learning the scholars the English language, with moral and religious teachings as an auxiliary. Herein lies the difference between the new and old systems of instruction: while the latter makes religious teachings and book learning its first and almost only aim, the new plan ranks labor first, and religious and literary instructions as incidental, though desirable features. But experience has made it manifest that it is futile to begin civilization among the Indians by attempting to force upon their benighted understandings mysterious truths, which no previous habits of their minds or bodies have prepared them to receive or comprehend aright.

It is now quite two hundred years since the first mission was established amongst this tribe. The experiment commenced under the most favorable circumstances possible. They were then in all their native wildness, or purity, as some may prefer to term it, and they had not at that early period been tainted or perverted by their intercourse with the white man. Not only then did the pious Catholic missionary struggle with them, but for one hundred and fifty years afterwards, uninterrupted by the competition of any other Christian church. It is in vain that we look through their history, written or traditional, for a single cheering monument remaining of all their Catholic devotion and

missionary effort. Not a single convert, if convert was made, has transmitted his or her piety, or civilization, or belief, in their descendants.

Nor have Protestant missionary or educational efforts amongst the Winnebagoes proved any more successful. It is about 50 years since Protestants have been more or less in contact with the tribe, and missionaries and teachers have labored amongst them in vain to accomplish that for which Catholics struggled during so many generations; in a word, the only fruit of any of the former missionary or school efforts for the civilization of these people to be found at the present time, are a few dozen of the most indolent and worthless of the tribe who can understand, more or less perfectly, the English language, with a little smattering of letters, which not one of them has ever put to any practical use.

The inevitable and natural inference from all this is, that some radical defect exists in all the plans heretofore adopted, and I have been irresistibly led to look upon the manual-labor system as the remedy.

Since the establishment of the new system amongst the Winnebagoes, the attendance of children at the school, and the general desire for instruction, have surprisingly increased, Many of the parents are able to discover the advantages of having their children taught to labor, and experience has shown them that without it a mere knowledge of letters can never be of any use to them. The average attendance at the manual-labor school has been more than double what it was at the religious school. It has sometimes reached over two hundred; and even at the present date, in the holyday season of making sweet corn, the daily attendance quite reaches one hundred, of both sexes—Indians alone, without the half-breeds.

I have been led into these remarks on the subject of schools, and on the efforts to civilize Indians, by the proposition which I understand has been made on the part of the Catholic church of the Territory, to assume the entire direction of the school fund belonging to the Winnebago nation, and thus abrogate the new system, which already promises such beneficial results to the tribe. So far as I have been able to obtain the sentiments of the Indians, they are strongly opposed to any change, and if they are allowed a voice in the matter, which I presume the department will readily concede, as they are so vitally interested, they will quite unanimously negative any such transfer.

In addition to the test of experience so long and faithfully applied to the former system of instruction, facts of recent occurence further militate against the proposition. With the concurrence of his Excellency the Superintendent of Indian Affairs, I sometime since set aside a portion of the school fund to aid the Catholic priest here in sustaining his school for half-breeds; at the same time, as a matter of temporary experiment, I allowed any of the Indian children to attend whose parents might think proper to send them, and that they should receive the same rations and allowances there as if attending the manual-labor school. At first, about half a dozen Indian scholars—probably for the novelty of the thing—attended the half-breed school; but these have since returned to the manual labor-school, and the other continues, notwithstanding the open door for all, as pretty exclusively a school for half-breeds only. Indeed, I regard the separation of the Indian from the half-breed chil-

dren as beneficial to both. It certainly has been beneficial to the former. Far less difficulty is experienced now in managing the Indian children than when the mixed and unmixed races were united in the same school; and, therefore, while earnestly deprecating a resort to the old system of mission school for the Indian children, I would respectfully recommend, as a matter of expediency, that the department continue and confine an allowance, proportioned to their number, for the support of a separate school for the Catholic half-breeds.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

A. M. FRIDLEY,
Indian Agent.

His Excellency Alex. Ramsey,
Supt. Indian Affairs, St. Paul, Minnesota Territory.

No. 15.

Winnebago Agency,
August 24, 1852.

Sir: Agreeably to your instructions, the following account of the Winnebago farms is respectfully submitted:

The farm on Long Prairie contains about five hundred acres; the whole of which have been ploughed this season, and occupied in the following manner:

Two hundred and twenty-five acres were sown with oats, and will yield more than an ordinary crop; the aggregate of which we estimate at about nine thousand bushels. Two hundred acres, planted to corn by the Indians, have been well attended, mostly by them; but the crop has been injured somewhat by the drought. The probable yield will be about eight thousand bushels.

Thirty acres were planted to potatoes, which the dry weather has affected very much; and, to all appearances, the crop will be light. Thirty acres were sown to turnips, which look promising, and will yield about twelve thousand bushels. Ten acres have also been planted to garden vegetables.

There have been, since last season, about seven thousand rails got out of the woods, which were used to repair the fences around this farm.

The farm on the Mississippi river, at Watal, contains two hundred acres; all of which have been ploughed and occupied, as follows:

One hundred and fifty acres planted to corn, which will yield about five thousand bushels. This the Indians have tended mostly themselves. Fifteen acres were planted to potatoes, which are much injured by the drought. Ten acres of garden vegetables were also planted.

We have made this season one hundred tons of hay for the benefit of the teams. Many of the Indians are cutting hay to feed their horses during the winter. Such we have supplied with tools for that purpose, and have attended to keeping them in order. It is said by travellers

visiting Long Prairie that the crops look better here than in any other part of the Territory.

Yours, respectfully,

W. WICKHAM,
E. T. MIXER,
Farmers for the Winnebagoes.

Maj. A. M. FRIDLEY,
U. S. Indian Agent.

No. 16.

WINNEBAGO AGENCY,
August 25, 1852.

SIR: As miller, as well as foreman in charge of the building operations at this agency, I would respectfully report:

That last winter, in anticipation of starting early last spring the new saw and grist-mill just erected at this agency, a gang of hands were employed in the pineries, about nine miles from this agency, in getting out a sufficient number of logs to supply the new mill. As the pineries are situated below the mill, there was no opportunity for rafting the logs to the mill, and we were consequently compelled to haul them by land in the winter season—a task which is not usually difficult in the winter season when the swamps and lakes are frozen, but, owing to the want of sleighing, was last winter unusually hard.

We succeeded, however, in getting to the mill about three hundred logs, sufficient for sixty thousand feet of lumber, leaving in the woods logs sufficient to make twenty thousand feet more. Oak logs were also hauled to the mill sufficient for the manufacture of twenty thousand feet of boards, and plank sufficient for the repairing of wagon, and other purposes, where hard wood is required. In addition to this, I will mention that two thousand spokes for wagon-wheels were got out and laid up to season.

The saw-mill was started on the 6th of April last, and was found to work admirably from the commencement, and we were enabled to cut eighty thousand feet of pine and oak lumber without any repairs. In ordinary sawing, with one set of hands, working ten hours, this mill will, on an average, cut two thousand feet of lumber; but, by increasing the hands, it can be made to cut from four to five thousand feet every twenty-four hours.

With the run of stones attached to this mill, a good business has likewise been done, and we have at times been quite pressed with grinding for the Indians and the department. The Indians are much pleased with the mill, as it is almost an indispensable assistance to such as are endeavoring to procure their own subsistence from the soil. To grind from ten to twelve bushels per hour appears to be the capacity of the mill; in a word, the mill works well in all its departments, and is a structure which is certainly quite creditable to the contractor and workmen who constructed it, and extremely useful to the Indians. The dam across the outlet of the lake appears to be a permanent struc-

ture, and stood the extraordinary freshet of last spring without any damage.

In the building and carpentering line, considerable progress has also been made. We have finished the two frame houses commenced for the chiefs last summer, repaired eight log-houses for the Indians, built seven lodges, or summer-houses, with boards and slabs, and erected a stable and wagon-house for the use of the department. Much of my time has been also occupied in keeping in repair the wagons belonging to the department and the Indians, as well as the farming-tools generally.

I likewise, at your request, undertook the construction of a threshing machine, which, with the assistance of Mr. Joshua Ady, the blacksmith, I have just completed. It works exceedingly well, and is estimated to thresh in the best manner from six to eight hundred bushels of grain per day. This machine is worked by the same horse-power used on the portable saw-mill used at this agency before the construction of the present water-mill.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,

GEO. H. FLETCHER.

A. M. Fridley, Esq,
United States Indian Agent.

No. 17.

Winnebago Agency,
September 8, 1852.

Sir: In accordance with custom, I beg leave to submit the following report of the operations of the Winnebago manual-labor school:

The past year has been one of unusual satisfaction to those engaged within the Winnebago agency. Providence has been kind to us, as it has been a year of unusual health. Death has visited but very few within the agency. The Indians have had but very little liquor; consequently, no depredations have been committed by them. Harmony has reigned; improvement has been the order of the year. Permit me to congratulate you upon the favorable aspect matters in your agency present. The schools have been largely attended, and are growing in favor, not only because of the food and clothing received, but because of the improvement made by the Indians.

Article fourth of the treaty made with the Winnebagoes in the year 1832, provided for the establishment of a school for the education, including the board, clothing, and lodging, of such Winnebago children as might be voluntarily sent to it. As soon as convenient after the ratification of the treaty, the Rev. D. Lowry, a missionary stationed among the Winnebagoes, opened a school; but, so strong were their prejudices, that for a long time but few attended. Mr. Lowry, by kind treatment, and carefully studying their characteristics, and studiously refraining from offending their prejudices, was enabled to gain their confidence; consequently, the attendance on the school increased until assistants had to be employed. The school was conducted on the mis-

sion system, which system was sustained until near the close of the year 1850.

These Indians are quick to receive impressions, apt in acquiring information, of inquisitive minds, have extraordinary memories, and have great talents for imitation: consequently, large numbers learned to speak, read, and write the English language, and quite a number understood the use of maps and made considerable progress in geography.

But, after all, what were the Indians advantaged? Notwithstanding large sums of money have been expended to give them book-learning, and although special and long-continued efforts had been made with a selected few by sending them abroad to school—out of the Indian country, boarding with pious white families, where no Indian influences could reach them—still no practical benefit resulted. They returned to their own country to adopt the Indian blanket, paint, wigwam vices, &c. Their knowledge of the English language gave them increased advantages for procuring whiskey; of this the Indians availed themselves.

Melancholy as is the fact, still such was the result of the mission system among the Winnebagoes, conducted, as it was, by a clergyman of more than ordinary abilities, who had largely the confidence of the Indians, and who still speak of him in terms of affectionate remembrance; who had spent years of self-denial in studying their characteristics; who was actuated solely by an earnest desire to benefit the "poor Indian:" not one was induced to adopt the dress of the whites—without adopting which no Indian has ever yet been civilized. Man, with but one arm, can do but little labor. As long as the Indian wears the blanket, he has but one arm with which to labor—to learn which is the great starting-point towards civilization.

Under the auspices of the present efficient Superintendent of Indian Affairs, towards the close of 1850, the school was reorganized on the manual-labor system; and although all the operations designed have not been carried out, still a marked change has taken place, not only in the children attending schools, but in the mission bands generally.

The whole number of children within the Winnebago agency is six hundred and seventy-five: of that number, thirty-two are half-breeds; three hundred and thirty-two belong to the mission bands, (so named because they have ever lived near the agency, and been favorable to the schools;) the balance of the children belong to bands that are restless; consequently, their children attend school but irregularly. The average attendance on the school for the year past has been one hundred and thirteen.

Especial care has been taken to inculcate habits of regularity and punctuality, having a stated time for which to assemble morning and afternoon, and a regular time for dismissal.

With the boys, two hours each day are devoted to spelling, reading, and writing; the balance of the time is spent in labor in the field or cutting wood for the school. The potatoes, corn, &c., cultivated by the boys are divided among the children in the winter. When a shop is built (which should be immediately) for them, I have no doubt, from their aptness, that they would make good mechanics. The girls devote one hour each day to their books; the balance of the time is

devoted to cutting, sewing, and knitting garments, for themselves and boys, of materials furnished for that purpose.

Efforts are particularly made to induce the children to wear the dress of the whites, (and no others are made in the school.) Our success, by steadily pursuing this system, has been very flattering. Upwards of sixty boys and girls now habitually wear coats, pants, frocks, &c., shoes and stockings; all of which, except shoes, are made in school.

The children are generally docile, and easily managed by kindness. Care has been, and is constantly, taken to instil and foster in their minds a love for their school; while a system of rewards has been established to those who excel in their work and are most regular in their attendance at school. The teachers employed have exhibited an extraordinary degree of self-denial, patience, assiduity, and perseverance; and they have been rewarded by the flattering success of their labors. The children love their teachers, they love their school, and are rapidly improving. Why should their prospects be marred? Why should their present school system be broken up? Why change the system that is raising the "poor Indian" to the level of his white neighbors, and again resort to the exploded system, that, after eighteen years' faithful trial, failed.

In conclusion, permit me to remark, as my deliberate opinion, after careful inquiry and experience, that so long as the present system of manual-labor schools is fully, carefully, and kindly sustained, so long the best results may be expected in the improvement of the Winnebago, both socially and morally.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,

A. T. C. PIERSON,
Superintendent, &c.

Major A. M. FRIDLEY,
Indian Agent.

No. 18.

INDIAN AGENCY,
St. Peters, September 1, 1850.

SIR: The time has again arrived when it becomes my duty to make my annual report of the affairs of this agency. In compliance with the regulations of the Indian Department, I have the honor to transmit the same through you to the department.

The Indians, during the season, until lately, have enjoyed a moderate degree of health. Since the first of August there has been considerable sickness, and quite a number of deaths. At this time there is much sickness among them, mostly bowel complaints and fever; the former much aggravated by indulging too much in the use of green corn, which, at this season of the year, is abundant. Diseases of this character have prevailed this summer more than usual in the Territory, owing, doubtless, to the extreme drought of the season.

In despite of the "Intercourse act," and the stringent laws of the Territory against vending spirituous liquors to Indians, with all the vigi-

lance that can be used, more or less of this bane to the Indians will find its way into their country. Only a few days ago, in consequence of liquor, one Indian killed another in the vicinity of the agency. The vender of the liquor on ceded land was detected and punished.

During the past year we have had much excitement owing to the treaties with them, and the uncertainty of their ratification: and, even at this time, the alterations made in those treaties have not yet been assented to, and increase the excitement. Striking out the provision allowing them a large reserve on the Minnesota river, and giving them money in lieu of it, do not meet their approbation. The large sums of money promised them by those treaties, and in expectancy, have prevented them from making their usual efforts to sustain themselves, and the result has been considerable suffering for want of provisions. Immediately after the treaty was made last summer, a large number of white men went over upon the Indian land, cutting timber, making claims, building houses, mills, &c. The number has steadily increased, and at this time there cannot be less than than five thousand white people. west of the Mississippi, on the lands owned by the Sioux, and the treaties are not yet consummated. At the commencement I used all my efforts to prevent this state of things, and to induce the white population not to occupy the land until it could be done lawfully. I called on the military at Fort Snelling to assist in removing improper persons; but they refused to act. The current of emigration became irresistible, and the country is virtually in possession of the white population. Treaty or no treaty, it will be occupied, unless opposed by a stronger force than is now here to dislodge them.

It would be well to remark, in this connexion, that, should the treaties be finally carried out, and the Indians removed to a new home, in view of a white population that will immediately surround them, the continued enmity of the Chippewas, the frequent murders and war parties that occur, and for the purpose of maintaining peace and order among them, a command of at least one hundred dragoons or mounted men will be necessary, stationed near where the agency may be located.

The past year much effort and patience have been required to preserve peace among the white settlers upon the Indian land and the Indians themselves. Comparatively few serious disturbances have taken place. Some cattle have been killed, and petty thefts committed; but it is matter of astonishment that so few outbreaks should have occurred. We fear, however, this state of things cannot long continue, and it is the interest of the white, as well as the Indian, that each should have his place assigned him. The Indian must retire before the wave of the Anglo-Saxon race, in his onward march north and west. We can see no permanent resting-place for him after a few years, if he expects to live by the chase. We again repeat the sentiment long entertained, that the aborigines of this country must become civilized, amalgamated, and be lost in the white race, subsist by agriculture as a separate community, or gradually become extinct.

As before intimated, the past has been a year of great excitement with the Indians, growing out of the late treaties. The large sums of money anticipated have of course made them troops of friends among traders and others. Powers of attorney have been got up by traders

to receive their money without giving them the trouble to sign the pay-rolls; by others, as guardians to protect their rights and prevent fraud. The object of all is the same—to get money.

We are among the number who believe that Indians as well as white men should pay their honest debts. The government has, perhaps for good reasons, said they will not interfere in regard to settling the debts of Indians. While we believe, from our short experience, as a general principle, this may be correct, yet there are cases in which it might interpose its authority to promote justice. Where traders, for a long series of years have been trading with certain Indian tribes that have no treaty stipulations with the government, receive no annuities, and where heavy debts are incurred by those tribes when they sell their lands, justice would seem to require that they should pay their debts. Those liabilities reach back, in some cases, twenty and thirty years. In old claims of this kind it seems to me some investigation should be made by disinterested parties, in order that justice might be done both to Indians and creditors. In more recent transactions the Indian can remember his account when the items are read to him.

While I have the honor to act as an Indian agent I shall attempt to guard the Indian against the cupidity of the white man, regardless of the consequences to myself; at the same time, urge him to pay his just liabilities.

I deem it my duty to make a passing remark upon the power of attorney got up by the traders and signed by the Indians at the treaty at Traverse des Sioux in July, 1851.

I was only at Traverse a day or two before the treaty was signed. Was requested by my superior in office to witness and certify this paper between the traders and Indians in relation to paying their debts. The paper was got up before my arrival, and I never saw it until the Indians were called upon to sign it at a side-table at the time the treaty was signed. I requested the person having it in charge to have it read and explained to the Indians, previous to signing, who refused, saying it would make a disturbance at the time, and that the Indians understood it. Although I saw the Indians sign it, and so certified, I also certified it was not explained to them in my presence, but, from information, was told they understood it. My opinion is, from all the facts in my possession, that, had it been read and explained at that time, the Indians would not have signed it. Many of them knew, doubtless, that a part of this money was given them to settle up their debts; but how much, to whom to be paid, and how much to each, I have no idea they understood. I have seen the paper, and the schedule of names attached who are to participate in the funds, amounting to $250,000, divided between traders and half-breeds. None but those interested can know, or have had an opportunity of knowing, what the Indians owe each individual fairly, respectively. While I am willing to admit that the Indians must of necessity owe a very considerable amount, yet I will fearlessly state, upon my official responsibility, that I believe some of the accounts presented and allowed in the schedule attached to the power of attorney will not bear the light of a disinterested investigation. I presume this will be admitted by the parties themselves.

Hence, I argue that, for the purpose of protecting the honest creditor, as well as to detect fraudulent claims, an examination, in this instance, should be made by a disinterested committee, audited and paid, so far as justly due, or a fair pro rata, if not money enough, of every honest claim. To an arrangement of this kind I think the Indians themselves would have assented. Let the auditors be appointed by the Indian Department, or mutually by the debtors and creditors. I shall lend my feeble influence to have all honest claims paid and fraudulent ones rejected.

I must protest against the practice of the traders getting together and dividing off the money of the Indians in this way, without reference to a fair investigation of accounts by those who are disinterested, limited only by the whole sum to be divided.

It has been asserted by those expecting to get a lion's share of this fund, that the agent has advised the Indians against paying their debts. This is not *true*, so long as the word "*honest*" is prefixed to the word "*debt*." Where large sums of money are to be disbursed, is always a battle ground, and those in any way charged with its distribution must expect censure and freedom of remark; but his only safety is, to do what is right according to his best judgment, regardless of consequences.

No report, as yet, has been received from the missionaries for the present year, and it is not probable any will be made. I can say, however, little has been done, or could be done, for their advancement in morals and religion. One of the principal missionaries among the Sioux, (Rev. Mr. Riggs,) at Lac qui Parle, has been east during most of the year superintending the publication of a large Dacotah lexicon, which I think will be a valuable work for those wishing to gain a knowledge of the Dacotah language. Dr. Williamson, also another missionary, has been engaged making an improvement on the reserve set apart for the Indians by treaty. It is hoped, when the Indians become settled at their new homes, the missionaries will have more success.

The schools have been more prosperous the present than the last year. Only one report, as yet, has been received, which is forwarded with this report; the other will be sent on when received. The average attendance of scholars at Kaposia has been about twenty, and commendable improvement has been made in the different branches taught.

We have about twenty Indian and half-breed children at school in different places, under the arrangement hitherto adopted of allowing $50 per annum for boarding, clothing and schooling an Indian child. In my judgment, we expend no money for the Indians to better advantage than this. In a few years it will throw back upon the masses of the Indian population a number of educated young people, having the rudiments of an education, a knowledge of husbandry and the mechanic arts, as well as what appertains to housekeeping in the female department. It is said by some that educated Indians are much worse, when thrown back upon their Heathen friends, than those who have not been instructed. This may be true in isolated cases, but it will not do to argue that, inasmuch as some educated men are very bad, therefore education is wrong. Let a large number be educated and remingle with their Heathen friends—let the government and the whole official

corps engaged in Indian superintendence throw their mighty influence in the scale of religion, morality, virtue and industry, to sustain the educated party—all commingling among them, and it will soon tell upon the destiny of the race. It is lamentably true, however, that many who are living by authority in the Indian country, exhibit to the Indians, by precept and example, very bad specimens of civilized life.

The report of Mr. Prescott, superintendent of farmers, will exhibit the condition of that interest. More than 300 acres of land have been cultivated by the Mekewakanton Sioux, who alone have farmers. They would have produced nine or ten thousand bushels of corn if they had permitted it to ripen, but much of it is wasted in a soft state. The blacksmiths have done the ordinary amount of labor in new work and repairing old.

I have spent several weeks lately among the Sipeton and Wapaugh-tons at Traverse des Sioux, who are parties to the treaty made at that place last summer. They had assembled at that point to the number of one thousand or more, without any orders from the superintendent or agent, expecting, as they alleged, to receive the first payment under the treaty. It required much effort to induce them to be orderly, and await with patience the action of the government. They were told the government would act in good faith towards them; give them money and provisions soon, and provide them a good home. I must be permitted to remark, however, in conclusion, that unless these Indians should assent to the alterations in the treaty, it should be carried out this fall, and they receive their money and provisions. I cannot see how they will subsist themselves the coming winter. They have made very little provision for the future—a few batches of corn only—relying upon the government to provide for them. Should they be disappointed, much suffering, if not actual starvation, must be the result with many. I hope the government will soon make at least some temporary provision for them to prevent such a catastrophe.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

NATHANIEL McLEAN,
Indian Agent.

His Excellency ALEXANDER RAMSEY,
Superintendent of Indian Affairs, St. Paul, Minnesota Territory.

No. 19.

ST. PETERS INDIAN AGENCY,
August 20, 1852.

SIR: The time has arrived that I have again to report the farming operations under my care and supervision. Mr. A. Robertson, farmer for Little Crow's band of Sioux, reports that the Indians of that village have a good crop of corn this season, but the process of making smut corn has commenced, and much waste is caused in breaking their corn in a soft state. The Indians still desire some of them to plant by themselves, in order that they may raise a variety of produce, which they cannot do under present circumstances. The habits of the Indian

children, pilfering each other's fields, prevent the industrious from making any effort to raise a variety of vegetables. One Indian planted his corn in rows, and ploughed it before hoeing; this is the first instance of the kind in this village. I believe about six acres of new ground have been ploughed in addition to the old land, which makes about eighty-five acres of corn for this village this year. Had their crops been left to ripen, they would have had an abundant supply of corn for the winter. The Indians cut poles to fence their fields, and the farmer hauled them, and assisted them to make a temporary fence round their fields; they complain, and say it is of no use to farm without protection of property.

Mr. J. Bird, farmer for Redwing's band, reports that he has ploughed about seventy acres, and the Indians have cultivated the whole fields. Their corn looks fine, and promises a good yield.

Mr. F. Lupoint, farmer for Wabashaw's band, reports to have ploughed sixty acres, and several of the Indians have planted their corn in rows, and ploughed it before hoeing, and they have a good crop.

Mr. H. Moabers, farmer for Black Dog's band, reports to have ploughed thirty acres, and their corn looks promising, and will, he judges, yield about eight hundred bushels in the whole piece. The farmer has been employed much of his time in hauling wood, provisions, and rails, and is obliged to rebuild his fence mostly new every year. The Indians burn a large part of their rails every winter, for no cause only they are too lazy to go for wood.

Mr. M. S. Titus, farmer for Lake Calhoon band, reports to have ploughed ten acres of new land, and about the same amount of old land. This band of Indians will not raise much corn. Their seed corn was bad, and, being planted on the sod, will not produce well. The cattle have broken into their fields, and injured their corn crops very much.

Mr. P. Quinn, farmer for Good Road's band, reports to have ploughed twenty acres of new land. This land will not raise much corn; their seed was bad, and, being planted on the sod, will yield but a small amount of corn per acre.

Mr. John Moders, farmer for Little Sixes band, reports about twenty acres ploughed. Their seed corn was not good, and did not come well; and what did grow, the cattle broke in and destroyed the most of it. The high water has prevented the last-named three bands from planting their old fields, and they will be short of corn this winter, and no doubt there will be some suffering amongst them. The farmers report that in some places the settlers on the late purchase from the Indians have claimed all the hay-ground, and they cannot cut hay for the Indian horses. Some settlers have marked out the Indian farms, and tell the Indians to move off, for the land, they say, belongs to them, since the treaty is ratified. The Indians, with their farming and their annuities, altogether, have suffered more this year than I have known them to do in a number of years past. The treaty has kept the minds of the Indians constantly agitated, and they talk of nothing else, and their money. Farming and education appear to be of trifling import with them, and, instead of increasing a desire for agriculture and

civilization, they are becoming more reckless in gambling and laziness. It is hoped that a change may be effected in this people soon, or their money will be their destruction. The chiefs are at variance with each other, and are striving to see who will be the greatest chief amongst them, through many inducements offered them to get large sums of money from them. This creates dissatisfaction amongst them, and it will be some time before their minds will be at rest, and harmony prevail. The striking out the reservation in the late treaty has set them to complaining about the government; they say they do not want the money—they want a permanent home; and they say the government wants to send them into a boundless prairie to starve them to death; and so long as this state of affairs exists, the Sioux will not improve in agriculture or civilization.

Mr. Oliver Rossisatt, one of the blacksmiths for the Sioux, reports that he has made, of various articles for the use of the Indians, 1,406 pieces of new work, the principal of which are traps, axes, and hoes, rat-spears, and fish-spears. He has shod sixty-one horses for them, and mended or repaired, of various articles for them, 829 pieces—a part of which are 228 guns, 224 traps, and 143 axes—making a sum total of his work of 2,229 pieces, made and repaired.

Mr. Victor Chatel reports to have made, of new articles for the Sioux, 3,139 pieces, and has repaired 2,389 articles—a part of which are 999 guns, 500 traps, 322 axes, &c.—making an aggregate of the two smiths' work to amount to 7,757 articles for the Sioux Indians.

Notwithstanding the Indians are so much in want of mechanical la bor, they cannot appreciate the necessity of learning to work for themselves, and never will, I fear, unless our government use some more efficient means to get manual-labor schools into operation; and I think it will require five years from this time to get the Indians' minds settled to a condition so that they can be made to understand which will be the best course to pursue hereafter, on account of the troubles and difficulties among themselves and the white people, arising out of the late treaties.

Your most obedient servant,

P. PRESCOTT,

Superintendent for Farming for Sioux.

Major N. McLean,

United States Indian Agent, St. Peters Ageney.

No. 20.

Office Superintendent Indian Affairs,

St. Louis, October 17, 1852.

Sir: But few changes of importance in relation to our Indian affairs have occurred within this superintendency during the last year.

For detailed information in regard to the condition of the border tribes, I must, as usual, refer you to the reports of the several agents, teachers, &c. At the same time I feel it my duty to state that these

reports (with but few exceptions) are colored in lights entirely too flattering. So far as my personal observation enables me to judge, little or no good has resulted from the humane efforts of the government, and those of pious individuals, to hasten the civilization of the Indians. In advancing this opinion it is proper to state, that it is done with no view of censuring the policy of the government, or disparaging the efforts of individuals. The experiment was worthy of a fair trial; it has been tried, without success. Assuming this to be true, the question naturally arises, what experiment shall be tried next? It is a subject to which I have devoted much painful thought for the last twenty years, but without ever having arrived at a conclusion altogether satisfactory to my own mind. One thing is certain, the condition of the various tribes located on the western border of Missouri will be speedily changed, and now is the time to determine what is best to be done for their future welfare. By reference to my last annual report, it will be seen that I recommended the assembling of *all* the border tribes, for the purpose of advising with them as to their present condition and future prospects. To enable the department to do this, I recommended an appropriation of $50,000. Time and further observation have only tended to convince me of the expediency of adopting this plan, as a preliminary step towards the great and radical change which is inevitable.

The border tribes themselves are well aware of the fact, that there is no resting-place for them, under the existing order of things; and this knowledge has had a most unhappy effect upon them. When urged to turn their attention to agricultural or mechanical pursuits, they invariably reply, "What is the use of it? In a few more years we will be driven back into the plains, or the Rocky Mountains; and what will our knowledge of agriculture, or the mechanic arts, avail us on the prairies, or in the Rocky Mountains?" Such is the prevailing feeling amongst them, and this will go far towards accounting for the slow—the very slow—progress they have made towards civilization.

I can only repeat that the attempt to civilize and christianize them, in their present condition, has proved a signal failure; and if the government is determined to persevere in its laudable efforts to improve their unhappy condition, the plan which I have heretofore recommended must be adopted, viz: to make citizens of all who are willing to become such—and they compose a large majority of the families in question. Those who are not sufficiently enlightened to appreciate the advantages thus afforded, might be colonized on the western border of Nebraska Territory, where, by judicious management, they would gradually improve, and the next generation would, in all probability, joyfully avail themselves of the boon they had once rejected. The government has only to choose between what may, perhaps, be considered two evils, viz: to make citizens, from time to time, of the border tribes, or drive them back into the prairies, and abandon them to their fate! A great and humane nation (as we profess to be) cannot hesitate which course to adopt. There is nothing novel in the policy I have recommended. We paid fifteen millions of dollars for New Mexico, and took in the whole of the native population as citizens of the United States. One or two millions of dollars will purchase Nebraska, and give us a Territory on our own border a hundred-fold more valuable than New Mexico, and a native

population far more enlightened and patriotic. I speak thus positively on the subject, as I am acquainted with the country and the inhabitants of both Territories. It is deemed useless to give my opinion as to the details of the new arrangement which, as I have already remarked, must be made. All that I recommend at present is, that a suitable appropriation be made by the ensuing Congress to enable the department to assemble the various tribes, and ascertain their views and wishes on this (to them) all-important subject.

The condition of the prairie and mountain tribes, embraced within the limits of this superintendency, is of less *immediate* importance than that of the tribes on the western frontier. Notwithstanding the vast number of emigrants passing and repassing through their country, but little change has been effected in their condition; but the change thus far has been, as it ever has been, against the "poor Indian." Vast quantities of their game (their only means of subsistence) have been destroyed. Their limited forests have been laid waste, and loathsome diseases (unknown in their primitive state) scattered among them. This is greatly to be deplored; but there is, at present, no remedy.

Congress made a liberal appropriation of $100,000 to make a treaty with the prairie and mountain tribes. A very satisfactory treaty was made with them last fall at Fort Laramie; the conditions of which, on their part, have been faithfully observed—no depredations having been committed during the past season by any of the tribes, parties to the Fort Laramie treaty. The Senate amended the treaty, substituting *fifteen* instead of *fifty* years, the period for which they were to have received an annual supply of goods, animals, &c., at the discretion of the President of the United States. This modification of the treaty I think very proper, as the condition of these wandering hordes will be entirely changed during the next *fifteen* years.

The treaty, however, should have been sent back to the Indians, for the purpose of obtaining their sanction to the modification, as was done in the case of the Sioux treaty, negotiated by commissioners Ramsey and Lea. It is hoped this oversight will be corrected as early as practicable next spring; otherwise the large amounts already expended will have been uselessly wasted, and the Indians far more dissatisfied than ever.

I would recommend (as I have already done on several occasions) that the Comanches, Kioways, and other wild tribes on the Arkansas, be made parties to the Fort Laramie treaty, or that one similar in its provisions be entered into with them. In anticipation of making some such treaty, the Arkansas Indians have been hovering about Fort Atkinson during the summer and fall; but, living on hopes and fair promises, have behaved better than usual, and, at last accounts, had dispersed on the plains, prosecuting their fall hunts, preparatory to taking up their winter quarters.

It is in vain to speculate upon the future destiny of this peculiar race of people. They are as wild and untamable as the animals they pursue in the chase; and the feeble efforts that have been made by zealous missionaries to turn them from the wild error of their ways have been wholly abortive. All that can be done for them is, gradually to substitute domestic animals, in place of the buffalo, elk, antelope, &c., that

are so rapidly disappearing. In course of time they will probably become a semi-civilized race—the Gipsies of this continent.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,

D. D. MITCHELL,
Superintendent of Indian Affairs.

Hon. L. LEA,
Commissioner of Indian Affairs.

No. 21.

MOUTH OF SIOUX, *September* 16, 1852.

SIR: Having received my appointment late in August of the last year, it was not in my power to arrive at my agency and enter upon my duties in time to make the usual annual report. Indeed, I did not arrive before the 15th of November at Fort Pierre, to which place I was directed by the clerk, acting in the absence of the superintendent.

During the winter I had an opportunity of seeing a great many of the Sioux, who came, some of them, from a considerable distance to see me.

As the buffalo were very scarce, there was much distress among these people; and I was tempted to exceed the allowance of $400, which I did the more readily, as by the treaty of Laramie there would be presents to be distributed, and the $400 appropriation could be applied to paying off the back score. I also engaged to have some ploughing done for the Yancton band, and for this purpose pledged a part of the said $400 appropriation.

I think it probable that there will be several applications for assistance by way of ploughing for the next season, and my intention is to render the assistance to all who apply, if in my power, so far as the said appropriation of $400 will enable me to do so. And I here beg leave to suggest, that few persons have any idea of the amount of suffering endured by these unfortunate people, where, as is often the case, the buffalo fail them. It is common to say that the Indians are passing away, and that the time will soon come when there will be no more of them: but how few take the trouble to advert to the suffering implied in a healthy, vigorous race, becoming extinct. The cholera and the small-pox, it is true, do their part, but the work of destruction is mainly to be attributed to the want of food and clothing.

The great body of the country above the mouth of the Big Sioux, from the want of timber, from the sterility of the soil, and from the scarcity of rain, is little adapted to agricultural purposes or the wants of the white race. Let it remain what nature intended it—a pastoral country; give up all idea of removing the present inhabitants from it, but by degrees induce them to introduce domestic cattle to supply the deficiency of the chase; and for the same purpose to settle and cultivate the rich bottoms which are found on some of their water-courses, and which, though of too small extent to be an object of avarice to the white man, would at length become flourishing settlements, and would furnish grain and other necessaries and comforts of life, to be exchanged

with the wandering bands of the plains for the produce of the chase, or of their flocks and herds. And in this connexion I will advert to the fact that there are hundreds of white men who have taken Indian women for wives, and who have in most instances large and interesting families of children. These men generally enter the country in the employment of the fur-traders. Many of them continue in their employment; but when their families become too large to be supported by their wages, they usually fall down upon the frontier settlements, and occupy government land. This class of men and their offspring are destined, with proper management, to exert a happy influence in improving the condition of their Indian relatives.

I had the honor heretofore to propose, and I here renew the suggestion, that I be authorized, with the consent and co-operation of the Indians of each band, to lay off, to such Indians as may wish the same, a portion of land, say one section, to be an inheritance in his family while used as a farm, and to descend in the female as well as the male line; but when abandoned, to fall back to the common stock, and be subject, as the rest of the land, to any arrangements which the band, with the consent of government, may think proper to make.

It is my opinion that some of the Indians will, after a while, be induced to avail themselves of such a provision, particularly those who have white relations. White men in the employment of the traders could continue to receive wages during the winter, the only time when their services are usually wanted, and in the spring and summer they could assist their Indian relatives to cultivate the soil, thus rendering it unnecessary on their own part, on the increase of their families, for them to take refuge among the white settlements. And it is surely best that the half-breeds, and white men who have Indian families, shall remain in the Indian country, where they will be respected, and where they may be useful, rather than subject themselves to the disadvantages incident to a residence among civilized white people.

And for the improvement of this class of persons immediately, and at length of the Indians themselves, I would suggest a school, under the direction of the agent, to be located at Fort Pierre, unless the great necessity for a military post, and an appropriation for an agency, should induce the government to grant the same, in which case the school should perhaps be at said post.

The general necessity for a force of mounted men on the upper Missouri has been frequently represented to the department. In connexion with such an establishment an able and scientific physician would advance the cause both of science and humanity. The department is aware that the small-pox and cholera have made and continue to make great ravages among these people. Should not some steps be taken, of a permanent character, to arrest these ravages?

If a military post, an agency, and a school, should be established at some military point on the upper Missouri above the mouth of the Big Sioux, the post could, in a great degree, be made to support itself; the agent would also have a farm cultivated, and a farm should be connected with the school.

The agent of the upper Missouri, unless made independent of the traders for his support, transportation, and protection, and unless

assisted by a force of mounted men, can have but little influence with the Indians, and do but little towards preventing the intercourse laws from being violated.

I must again report the disorderly conduct of a band of about sixty lodges of Santies, with some few Yanctons mixed with them, who infest the waters of the Big and Little Sioux, spending much of their time within the State of Iowa, and committing many depredations and outrages upon the settlers on the northwest frontier of said State. I would suggest that the force now at Fort Dodge be increased in mounted men and removed to the mouth of Vermillion river, about thirty or forty miles above the Big Sioux. From my own observation I can recommend it as a suitable situation: there is an abundance of wood and grass, a fertile bottom of land for cultivation, and the bluff in one place within 200 yards of the Missouri river.

I have had a talk with as many of these Santies as I could get together, but have no confidence in their promises. I hope I will be excused for saying that the power of government should be felt as well as its bounty, if it is hoped to keep the Indians in order.

Most respectfully submitted:

JAS. H. NORWOOD,
United States Indian Agent, Upper Missouri.

D. D. Mitchell, Esq.

No. 22.

Great Nemahaw Agency,
September 30, 1852.

Sir: The past year may well be distinguished as one of remarkable quiet and repose among the Indians embraced within my jurisdiction. And while it is not my privilege to boast of any extraordinary advance towards a higher state of civilization, truth will justify the assertion that some improvement is certainly observable among them.

The season has been highly favorable to the growth and maturity of their crops; and it gives me pleasure to observe that most of them have improved it by raising a plentiful supply of the ordinary necessaries of Indian life. As the fact becomes the more apparent to them with the lapse of each succeeding year—that the cultivation of the soil is the only resource left them—an increased anxiety in regard to agriculture is quite perceptible, and leads me to indulge the pleasing hope that all the little tribes under my care will, at no distant day, present a community of independent and prosperous cultivators of the soil, than which certainly no other situation could be more desirable. These remarks apply particularly to the Kickapoos and Iowas, and also, though with a less degree of force, to the Sacs and Foxes of Missouri.

The last-mentioned tribe, like their brethren the Sacs and Foxes of Osage river, are remarkable for a tenacious adherence to their aboriginal customs, and particularly for a firm and steady resistance to all innovations upon their religious system. Missionaries and teachers have been generally regarded by them with the greatest

aversion, and the most logical reasons vainly invoked to convince them that they and their white brethren spring from the same source, or that they are journeying to a common destiny.

These prejudices are, I think, gradually, though very slowly, giving way, and an evidence of it is afforded by a reference to the accompanying report from the Rev. S. M. Irvin, on behalf of the Iowa and Sac Mission and Manual-labor Boarding School, to which it affords me pleasure to refer you.

There are, I believe, at present five scholars in attendance from the Sac and Fox tribe; and it will be found, also, that the aggregate number of scholars in attendance is greater than last year.

The somewhat notorious Iowa ex-chief, White Cloud, and the second chief, Ne-u-mon-ya, or Rain-Walker, have died within the year. Both were men of decided talents, and the latter was particularly noted for shrewdness.

The Kickapoos have also lost Keu-e-kuck, their principal chief. He exerted a most beneficial influence over a great portion of that tribe for some years before his death, in restraining, by all the means in his power, the introduction and use of spirits. On the other hand, he was notorious for his superstitious quackery—a conjurer of the first water—and regarded by most of his people as possessing supernatural powers.

I had the honor, in my last annual report, of recommending the purchase of the lands, or part of them at least, at present owned and occupied by these tribes, and throwing them open to the settlement of our own citizens. The experience of another year has strengthened the opinion then expressed.

Viewing the ultimate purchase and settlement of these lands by the United States as inevitable, I see no good reason for delaying, but many for consummating it. The relative condition of the Indians could not be materially affected, or their facilities of intercourse much increased; for the Missouri river (the present dividing-line between them and the whites) is but little more regarded by them than the lines of survey which separate the lands of one tribe from those of another.

The important and delicate relation of our government to the entire Indian race embraced within our limits, and the future disposition and destiny of so interesting a people, is a subject well calculated to enlist the sympathies of the philanthropist and to awake a solicitude in every patriotic bosom. It has engaged the attention of some of our wisest and best statesmen, time and again, without any apparent progress towards any settled policy respecting them. I have not the vanity to believe that I could suggest any course that would materially retard their threatened fate. One thing, however, must, I think, be apparent to all—that a separate political existence must soon cease, and that they must soon rise to the character of law-making and law-abiding citizens, or every vestige of the race will be swept away. Taking it as a "fixed fact" that they must soon be taken under the immediate protection of our laws, I can but hope that the great principle which first gave us our existence as a nation will not be forgotten, but that they may be no less the *makers* than the *subjects* of the laws. If we secure them the rights we ourselves value so highly, it is perhaps all that the future historian can claim on the score of justice; but if we do less

than make them equal and independent citizens with ourselves, an abiding reproach will rest upon our nation. I think no fears need be entertained that they will prove unequal to the task of understanding and executing our laws. They certainly will compare well, as a race, with our own people in point of *intellect;* but they want that *energy* that peculiarly distinguishes the Anglo-Saxon race. A host of reflections crowd upon the mind in contemplating this subject, but I leave to abler hands than my own the task of doing the red man justice. The band of Winnebagoes living with the Iowas have raised good crops, and appear to demean themselves well. As it appears to be the determination of the department not to pay them their proportion of the Winnebago annuity, I think strict justice to the Iowa tribe requires that they should be sent back to their own country.

The various employés of the government among these tribes have performed their respective trusts with fidelity, and I think, as far as in their power, with benefit to the Indians. Those engaged in the mission cause, both among the Iowas and Kickapoos, are, I feel well assured, sparing no exertions to succeed fully in their benevolent undertaking. My only regret is, that their success is not commensurate with their efforts.

Respectfully submitted:

WM. P. RICHARDSON,
Indian Agent.

D. D. Mitchell,
Superintendent Indian Affairs, St. Louis, Mo.

No. 23.

Iowa and Sac Mission, *August* 30, 1852.

Very Dear Sir: The design of our mission is, as much as possible, to combine the important object of morals and Christianity with industry and domestic economy; and our main agent in this pursuit is the manual-labor boarding-school, which has for several years been in progress here. For some time past the school has been thirty-nine scholars—twenty boys and nineteen girls. These are now studying in the following classes: eight study geography, Parley's; eight study arithmetic on the slate and black-board; twenty-six read the Testament in English; six McGuffie's Fourth Reader; ten McGuffie's Third Reader; twelve McGuffie's and Cobb's First Reader; and twenty-two write, and two are in the alphabet. Besides these regular daily recitations, they memorise, weekly, portions of Scripture and hymns in English, which they recite at the Sabbath school. The afternoon of each Friday is given by one of the missionaries to the school, when moral and religious instruction, with singing and catechising, is attended to.

Up to within a few weeks, the entire school, both boys and girls, were taught by Miss S. A. Waterman, who with fidelity performed her duty both in giving religious and moral, as well as literary instruction. At present the school is divided, and the boys are taught by Mr. James Williams, a young gentleman late from England, who also takes over-

sight of the boys on the farm, and who succeeds very well. At present we have no other help on the farm than Mr. Williams and the boys. We will have to hire some this fall; but as the boys advance, we hope to be able to get along with less. We have about fifty acres of land in cultivation, and over this amount in pasture. Our corn and potatoes are fine. We have two yoke of oxen and one wagon, two poor horses, and nine milch cows. Our wood we find within a mile; and all the provisions used here, and not raised on the farm, we haul from St. Joseph, twenty-eight miles, or from Holt county, Missouri, from six to twelve miles. Our pork we usually drive and slaughter. In all this work the boys are a great help, and are growing more valuable. Were it not for a few vagrant Indians, and the poor fences which our neighboring Indians build, we could easily raise our own pork and beef, which would reduce our expenses very much.

Much credit is due to the little girls for their industry. Our entire family is generally near sixty—seldom less than fifty—and all the female help we have hired, besides a cook, is Mrs. Donaldson, assistant matron. The other help is the girls of the school. Washing for the school, scrubbing, milking, churning, &c., with the work of the dining-room, are mainly done by them. They also do a good deal of sewing. This year most of the clothing for the girls is to be made up at the station. Indeed, it would be impossible for us, in our present condition, to go forward without their help.

These children are from several different tribes: the Iowas, Sacs, Sioux, and Blackfeet, are represented here. And it is an interesting fact, that nearly all these children, both boys and girls, are orphans, and some of them from tribes who are at war with each other. The question often occurs to us, and we beg leave to suggest it to you, whether, in connexion with the Board of Missions, some effort might be made to collect at this place more children, particularly orphans, from the more remote and wandering tribes. Here the building and improvements are up sufficiently large to accommodate, at but little increase of expense, at least twice our present number of scholars. Some of the advantages of bringing them here at once would be: 1st. They can be provided for and schooled here cheaper than among the remote tribes. 2d. The children and missionaries are safe from marauding bands of the wild tribes. 3d. Here they would be from under the influence of the nations, and not likely to be stolen off by their friends, or steal away themselves. 4th. Different tribes brought thus together, the English language, which must eventually be the bond of union and the medium of higher learning, would be easily inculcated. 5th. Interpreters would be raised up for future use. 6th. The children would be put in a state of improvement *now*. With these dying people, *time* is everything. If we wait for treaty arrangements from the government, and until we may have means to bring to each tribe a regular mission and school, it will be too late in the day for many of them. The tide of emigration and improvement, with its astonishing spread, does not rush upon us more rapidly than these people recede from us; and if not sought for soon, they can never be found.

There are but two families at the mission—Mr. Hamilton's and my own. His time is mostly given to the moral and religious instructions

of the Indians, while mine is mostly given to the secular affairs of the mission; though our work often interchanges. The Indians are taught in religious knowledge, and talked to, from house to house, uniformly on the Sabbath, and on alternate days through the week. Religious services are regularly kept up, in English, on the Sabbath, at the mission, and also on Wednesday evening.

A good deal of time and attention is given to the Indians in their sickness. Their calls for medicine are very frequent, and the expense of medicine, which has always been furnished by the board of missions, is often greater than we could wish. But the practice seems to be a good one, not only in directly benefiting the sick, but in doing away with the heathenish mummery and cruel practices with the sick and dying.

Still we are not yet permitted to see any marked moral or religious influence upon the nation as a whole; nor have some of the children who have had the best advantages in the mission and school given us the reward and encouragement we hoped for. And were it not that God has reserved to himself the right of "giving the increase," we would have been utterly discouraged long ago. The inquiry often rises in our minds, "O, Lord, how long?" But the admonition, "Judge nothing before the time, till the Lord come," quiets our solicitude. Is fifteen years, or an age, or "a thousand years, which are but as yesterday, or as a watch of the night," time enough to enable us to understand the great designs of a wise Providence in the missionary work, or to interpret the apparently long delays of his power in vindication of the oppressed.

But we must not dilate here upon the Scriptures. We only ask leave, in conclusion, to mention the aid and encouragement we have so long met with from your constant and uniform aid and co-operation. That your life may be long spared, and that you may yet see an improvement in these people, equal to your benevolent desires and efforts, is the humble but sincere desire of your most unworthy, but sincere friend and obedient servant,

S. M. IRVIN,
In behalf of the Mission.

Major W. P. Richardson.

No. 24.

Kanzas Agency,
September 1, 1852.

Sir: I now submit the few remarks I have to make in my annual report.

It is known to the department that the Wyandots are most anxious to change their condition as a nation; delegates were sent in June last to make a new treaty with the government, and their wishes made known on the subject. The Wyandots are reduced now to a small tribe, and seem fast decreasing. I am of the opinion that the entire tribe, with very few, if any, exceptions, are anxious to become citizens

of the United States government, in the new Territory expected soon to be organized, north of the Kanzas river and west of the Missouri.

I find quite a difference with this tribe, in the last three years, in the management of their little government affairs by laws of their own creation. Many of the principal men have died, reducing their numbers so as to make it difficult to carry on a system of government; and hence their great desire to change their present condition. They see plainly that they cannot expect the present state of things to continue much longer; and from the many reports in circulation, they confidently believe that the Nebraska Territory may, at the next session of Congress, be organized, and they wish to become, by permission of the United States, citizens of said Territory.

The schools in the Wyandot tribe have not been as well attended and managed as in 1849 and '50. There are three schools taught, and the number of children attending the schools varies from fifty to sixty-eight. None but the ordinary branches of education are taught. These schools cost the tribe eight hundred dollars per annum, being a national expense on the tribe of three hundred dollars more than the education fund provided for by the treaty of 1842.

This tribe have raised a good crop of grain and all description of vegetables, quite sufficient for their consumption, and many of them a surplus to sell. They have good stocks of cattle, horses, and hogs.

There have been two murders committed by Wyandots during the present year: one of the tribe committed a murder on another near the line, but within Jackson county, Missouri; he was demanded of me by the State authorities, and I caused him to be delivered up; he is now in Jackson county jail, and will have his trial early in the present month. The other committed was in their own territory, and has been dealt with according to their own laws. The free use of ardent spirits is indulged in by a number of this tribe, and every murder committed among them is attributed to the effects of drunkenness.

The Delaware Indians are pursuing their usual course; some farming, and some hunting and trading with the wild Indians of the plains.

In their hunting excursions this spring two of the sons of Captain Kitchum, the principal chief, were killed by a war party of the Sioux on the waters of the Platte river, between Forts Kearny and Laramie. All their furs, horses, traps, and blankets fell into the hands of the Sioux. Another Delaware Indian was shot through the leg with an arrow, and made his escape. The Delawares are brave, chivalrous, enterprising Indians. They hunt and roam throughout the length and breadth of the great western plains, some as far as California. It appears that quite a number of this tribe, engaged in the chase and trade on the plains, are annually killed by wild tribes, or die from great exposure.

A small party of Delawares, consisting of a man, his squaw, and a lad about eighteen years of age, recently returning from the mountains with the avails and profits of a successful hunt and traffic, after they had commenced their journey homewards, the second day the man sickened and died. Before he died he directed his squaw and the young man to hasten home with their horses and mules—thirteen in number—the money—$445—besides many other articles of value.

After a few days' travel, near some of the forts on the Arkansas they were overtaken by four white men—deserters from the United States army—three on foot and one riding a mule. The squaw and young man loaned each of the men on foot a horse or mule to ride, and furnished them with provisions. They all travelled on friendly together for some six or seven days, until they arrived at Cotton Wood creek, thirty-five or forty miles west of Council Grove. One evening, while resting for a noon snack, the young man was killed by these men, and the squaw was also supposed by these wretches to be dead, having had her throat cut badly and her head severely fractured. The two were then dragged off in the grass, supposed to be dead. The men then gathered the mules, horses, money, guns, blankets, &c., that they supposed of value, and then made for Jackson county, Missouri, where they disposed of the stock the best they could, and some of the last at auction in Independence; and three of them then took the first steamer for St. Louis. The squaw, on the day after receiving her wounds, resuscitated, and soon discovering that her companion had been killed, and everything they possessed had disappeared, she, in her feeble and dangerous condition, took the road to Council Grove; and the fifth day out she says she was overtaken by a Kau Indian, and brought into Council Grove, where the traders at that place had every attention paid her, and sent a runner to the Delaware traders and myself, and we soon succeeded in capturing one of the men in Liberty, Clay county, Missouri, when he voluntarily confessed the whole tragedy—the murder, robbing, &c. The three others had by this time left for St. Louis. A telegraphic despatch to St. Louis, however, had the desired effect; and the three men were taken and brought back to Liberty, where, upon a trial before two justices of the peace, they were all committed for trial in the district court of the United States for the State of Missouri. As feeble as the squaw was, I was under the necessity of having her taken to Liberty as a witness on the trial. She readily recognised and pointed out, in a large crowd of persons, three of the prisoners.

I have caused four of the recovered mules and horses to be turned over to the unfortunate squaw. With the assistance of the Delaware traders I expect to recover two or three more. The balance, I am of opinion, will never be obtained. Some of the effects of this unfortunate squaw and young man were burned, some thrown into the water—so says one of the party, who turned State's evidence at the examining trial.

The Delaware chiefs and headmen have manifested much interest and feeling in this lamented transaction. They were very anxious to know of me, in a recent council, whether the United States government would replace the losses to the squaw and the young man. I gave them my opinion that the government would do so. They seemed to think that as the act *was done by United States soldiers*, they would certainly make good all the robbery of the property.

The Delaware Indians, at this time, are highly excited by reports from bordering tribes, that the Sioux Indians intend to wage a war with them soon, in the Delaware nation. The headmen and braves have held councils with the tribes of this agency, for the purpose of making

preparation to meet them. I have no idea, the most remote, that the Sioux intend any such descent upon them, and urged them not to be alarmed.

The Delaware tribe will this year raise grain sufficient to support those who follow the chase, as well as those who cultivate the earth. They have a number of horses, mules and cattle, and a few hogs. The tribe is evidently on the decrease.

I am sorry the Delawares are not more in favor of schools; and from this fact the advantages of schools are limited. The only school in this tribe is one under the management of the Rev. Mr. Pratt, of the Baptist Missionary Society. This school of Mr. Pratt's consists of a limited number, twenty-four, and they are mostly orphans. During last month, I examined Mr. Pratt's school. The children appeared not to exceed twelve years of age, and I was as much surprised as pleased to find the most of them so far advanced. The first class, composed of some eight or nine boys and girls, were studying geography, natural philosophy, astronomy, &c. In their examination they evinced much industry and intellect. The remainder of the school were examined in the elementary branches, geography and arithmetic.

The performances of the children, and management of the school, would not suffer by a comparison with the best schools of the States. Miss Moss, the teacher of this school, seems to possess peculiarities for teaching these children of the forest that few possess, as her labors show. The girls are taught to knit and sew, and the duties of housekeeping. I regret that the means to enlarge this school are not in the possession of its indefatigable and worthy benefactor. I found the children well clad, and an abundance of healthy diet, bedding, &c., prepared for them. Mr. Pratt cultivates a small farm, to help to sustain his school.

A few Stockbridge Indians still reside in the Delaware counry, the number reduced to some 18 or 20—but three men grown among them.

The Delawares are opposed to their living on their lands, as they are considered by them a bad, worthless set of people; and the chiefs of the Delaware tribe have, on several occasions, asked me to inform the United States government that they wished them removed to their own tribe, wherever they might be located.

The Munsee and Christian Indians are yet residing on the lands of the Wyandots, as they have done for the last six or eight years; but the Wyandots have given them recently to understand that they must leave, during the ensuing fall and winter. No annuity has been paid to these Indians since my agency of their affairs. The $400 I received in October last for them, as annuity, I was instructed to retain till ordered to pay it over. I have not yet received any instructions upon the subject, and the funds are now in my possession. These Indians are in rather a destitute condition as regards a home. It would be a great act of kindness on the part of the government to assign them a home that they could call their own.

The Shawnee tribe, next and lastly, claim some attention from me. I look upon these people as making advances and improvements towards civilization; and I cannot but repeat, as heretofore, that much of their

improvement is the result of the good effects and example of the three missionary schools in their midst.

The Shawnee Methodist manual labor school, under the superintendency of Rev. Thomas Johnson, is one on a large scale, compared with any other in the tribe; the number of children attending varying from 80 to 106 in the year. I attended, in June last, the annual examination of this school, and the result of the examination was truly highly satisfactory to all. The children acquitted themselves in a manner that showed they had been taught and managed by competent hands, and had improved well their time at school. The higher class were learning geography, English grammar, arithmetic, &c.; the other classes were in the elementary branches—writing, vocal music, &c. The teacher of this school, in the male department, seemed to be well qualified for his station, and I would be doing injustice to the ladies engaged as teachers in the female department, not to say they were every way qualified for their vocations, and well deserve the approbation of all, for the motherly care manifested for the children, not only in school, but in their care and watchfulness over them at all times, whilst at the mission.

The Friends' Shawnee labor-school is under the superintendency of Mr. C. Douglass. I have examined with considerable pleasure this Friends' school, where the children are taught not only to read, write, &c., but taught mechanically how to work on a farm. This school, when examined, had from twenty-eight to thirty children, boys and girls. The most of the children at this school were quite young, and out of the number not more than a half dozen could speak English any way intelligible, yet many of them could spell and read a little that could not speak English. The first class were examined in geography, reading, spelling, and arithmetic, and showed they had been taught by competent hands. The boys, when large enough, spend a portion of each day in labor on the farm during the crop season.

The girls are taught to sew, knit, spin, and weave. I visited the female department and examined their sewing, knitting, &c. They seemed in these branches to be quite expert. They are under the care of a kind, benevolent preceptress, who attends them in all their domestic vocations.

The Shawnee Baptist mission school, under the superintendency of the Rev. Dr. Barker, I have examined, a few days since, with much pleasure and satisfaction. The number of this school is also limited, the average being fifteen. The performances of the children in the elementary branches, geography, history, arithmetic, in their examination, evinced clearly and readily that they were taught—and that properly and systematically—by their accomplished and efficient preceptress, Miss Doaty, late of the State of New York. I can well say that I regret Dr. Barker's means are not more abundant, that he might extend his benevolence and services to more of the benighted children of the forest, now wasting in ignorance and idleness.

The female children of this school are taught also to sew and knit, and embroidery. I was shown some of this work done by girls under eight years of age; it would have done credit to those of more advanced years.

The boys are taught to work on the farm. The children all seemed

well pleased with their school and home, for such it is. They are well provided with good clothing, diet, &c.

For further particulars of the schools within this agency permit me to refer you to the reports of the several superintendents, herewith sent, and marked A, B, C, D.

The Shawnee tribe, living so directly on the margin of the State of Missouri, experience many troubles and losses of their stock, particularly their ponies. During the past spring I have recovered for this tribe some forty horses, mules, and oxen, and yet their loss in stock is considerable. It seems when a train of emigrants make their appearance in this vicinity, a number of wretches, like pick-pockets in large cities, make also their appearance for the purpose of stealing horses, particularly Indian ponies, as they are in great demand at that time, and sell them to unsuspecting emigrants, who very soon have to surrender them to the proper Indian owner.

The Delaware tribe also have similarly suffered loss in their horses. My labors this spring in this business have been great, and required every hour of my time and attention.

The Shawnees have this year made a bountiful crop of grain, vegetables, &c., and will have a surplus to spare. They are the most working, farmer-like, of any of my charge; few or none of them engage in the chase for a living, but seem disposed to cultivate the earth for it. They are by no means exempt from indulging too freely in ardent spirits, and the facilities of obtaining it are quite abundant and near at hand.

I am sorry to say there have been four murders in this tribe within the last twelve months—the result of drunkenness. There is no law or regulation with this tribe, as is also the case with the Delaware tribe, for the crime of murder. I have frequently urged upon these tribes the necessity of making some regulations to punish the crime of murder; but they seem fearful of making any such by the tribes, and the ancient custom prevails, punishment or not, as the friends of the murdered one are disposed to inflict or forgive.

The blacksmiths within this agency have performed their respective duties to the entire satisfaction of the tribes, as well as of myself.

The Delaware blacksmith does a great portion of his work on guns, gun-stocks, knives, steel-traps, &c., as a number of the tribe follow the chase. His labor is much diversified; but being a man of much mechanical genius and industry, he is kept busy in all the various branches of a blacksmith shop.

The purchases for the Delaware smith-shop of materials, tools, &c., differ from the ordinary purchases of other shops, as the bills show, and are necessary to carry on the shop successfully and to the satisfaction of the Indians. The amount of money now allowed to this tribe for iron, steel, &c., is insufficient for them. I therefore recommend that an additional sum of fifty dollars be added in future for the iron and steel fund for the tribe.

As the blacksmith shop and iron and steel fund for the Shawnee tribe is only during the pleasure of the President, yet, whilst it is his pleasure to continue the same, I would also recommend the additional sum of fifty dollars for this tribe, as they are progressing in the opera-

tions of farming and building; and the sum now allowed, as I am informed by the blacksmith, Mr. Perkins, for iron and steel, falls short of meeting all the wants of the Indians in this particular.

There has prevailed amongst the several tribes of this agency during the present season much sickness, particularly among the Wyandots. I think that if a portion of the annuities were applied for the purpose of employing a good physician to reside in the tribes, it would benefit them more than the annuity does, and might be the means of saving many valuable lives.

Most respectfully, your obedient servant,

THOMAS MOSELEY, Jr.,
Indian Agent for the Kanzas agency.

Col. D. D. Mitchell,
Superintendent Indian Affairs, St. Louis, Mo.

No. 25.

Shawnee Baptist Mission,
Indian Territory, August 26, 1852.

Sir: In presenting our annual report of this mission station, we can speak encouragingly of the prospects for the future, though we do not note any marked changes during the past year.

The Shawnees we regard as an interesting people, and are happy in testifying to their improved condition. The most of them live comfortably in houses built by their own hands; and many enjoy the conveniences and luxuries of life, obtained from the cultivation of the soil. The more enlightened manifest a commendable zeal in extending a salutary influence to such as adhere to their habits of dissipation.

The proximity of the agency to this tribe has promoted a natural tendency to rely upon the government agents for council and direction in their national business and individual troubles. If, from this source, they could be encouraged and aided in instituting and sustaining a simple code of laws adapted to their necessities, unquestionably much good would result. It seems desirable, in connexion with other things, that a penalty be attached to getting drunk. The Indians, when drinking, are so distracted as to be emphatically disturbers of the peace, and as such, could be dealt with justly. If examples could be made in bringing a few to suffer a signal punishment for getting drunk, others would speedily be restrained, and a check hopefully made in the liquor traffic; a matter desirable, indeed, as from the past we judge of the future. So long as Indians will drink, white men will be found on the frontiers who, for the sake of gain, will supply them with the means of getting drunk, though it be an illegal business.

The condition of the church is prosperous, though commingled in its history the past year with internal trials and unusual opposition from the dissipated party.

In the school department we mourn the loss of two of the scholars, who became victims to a prevailing epidemic in the spring. Their place has, however, been supplied by others, and this department

regularly sustained, with the exception of the absence of some of the larger scholars, for a few months, to assist their parents in work at home during the busy season. It is too often the case that parents wish to make the mission schools subservient to their interests, by obtaining from them support for their children when they can be of no use at home—taking them away, as suits their convenience, as they become large enough to engage in some useful service.

The school supplies an interesting department in our labors, and, under other circumstances, might be profitably enlarged. We often regret the unavoidable necessity of refusing admittance to the most pressing applications. There are fifteen Indian scholars, who, with the children of the family, make the school about twenty in number.

The school attends the chapel services regularly, and engages with much interest in the exercises of the Sabbath school; and, while acquiring useful knowledge, are taught their accountability to God for the actions of their lives. They are required to spend a portion of their time at work; and some of them exhibit very pleasing marks of genius in their labors.

Very respectfully submitted:

FRANCIS BARKER,
Superintendent of the station.

Major THOMAS MOSELEY, JR.,
United States Indian Agent.

No. 26.

FORT LEAVENWORTH,
Indian Manual Labor School, August 26, 1852.

SIR: In pursuance of your instructions, I respectfully submit the following as my annual report of the Indians under my charge.

The past year, taking in view the interests of the institution in general, cannot but be regarded as one of more than ordinary prosperity. As to the health of the school, we have a good report to render. Of the one hundred and six scholars who have been in attendance, besides laborers, &c., employed in the service of the institution, not one death, nor even a case of serious illness, has occurred. This merciful dispensation, considering the prevalence and fatality of the cholera and other diseases on every side of us in close proximity, is truly remarkable, and for which we desire to render grateful acknowledgments to the Great Author of all Good.

For the more particular statistics of the school I beg leave to refer you to the accompanying document No. 1, which contains, in detail, all the items of information required by the department. On the examination of that document, you will find that during the past year the Delawares have again sent their children to the school, and I hope will continue to do so.

Our crop this season may be pronounced a good one, especially of hay, corn, and oats. The same may be said of the crops of the tribes adjacent, viz: Shawnees, Wyandots, and Delawares.

In riding by their plantations and observing their farm-houses, many of which are very neat and comfortable, and also their fields, laden with rich products, and promising an abundant supply of all the necessaries and many of the luxuries of life, one can hardly be brought to believe but that they were the results of a higher degree of skill and industry than is generally attributed to the red man of the forest. This state of improvement, it is true, is not equally observable in all parts of those tribes. There are portions of each that still cling more or less to their heathenish manners and modes of life; most of these are intemperate and abandoned, and have but little respectability in their nation, and, indeed, their regeneration is quite hopeless. But the principal classes, those who compose the strength and body of each of their nations, and who wield the chief influence in their national councils, are those who have attained the state of improvement we have mentioned above. They are industrious, moral, and intelligent, and, to my mind, there seems to be nothing in the way of their taking a stand on equal ground with the whites in every department of competition, except it is in the shelter of a government, which, in point of social and political privileges, would afford the same precious boon to them as that enjoyed by our own citizens; and, until they are raised to an equality with the whites in this regard, it is folly to suppose that they can ever hold a fair competition with them.

The ability to hold real estate, the safeguard of competent laws for the protection of property, and an eligibility for rising to public office and endowment, seem to be necessary stimulants among any people to draw out their undeveloped energies, and second their elevation to an enlightened and prosperous state. Much more, then, are such institutions necessary among those who were lately untutored savages, and who have just broken from off them the fetters of heathenism, and struggled into a state of civilization.

I throw out these suggestions, hoping that they may not seem officious, but merely for the consideration of those to whom such matters more properly belong.

The moral and religious condition of these tribes is still thought to be slowly on the advance for the better. Besides many new converts to the profession of christianity, the older professors are beginning to understand more perfectly the deeper principle of the Christian system, and to settle down in the practice of a more uniform and consistent piety. The principal obstacle we find in the success of our missionary effort among a large portion of these tribes is their intemperance in the use of ardent spirits. Abandoned wretches among the white men have always been found sufficiently artful and corrupt to elude the laws, and deal out doses of physical and moral death to the unfortunate victims of their avarice.

I am aware that the benevolent designs of the government in this regard have been manifested by the repeated enactments of very stringent laws. But these, to a great degree, have proved insufficient. If some step could still be taken to arrest this evil, it would be an achievement in behalf of the poor Indian, than which, perhaps, no other bene-

faction, within the power of the government, would have a more favorable bearing in the present condition and future prospects of the Indian race.

Respectfully submitted:

THOMAS JOHNSON,
Superintendent.

THOMAS MOSELEY, Jr.,
Indian Agent.

No. 27.

BRIGGSVALE, *August* 26, 1852.

DEAR SIR: I hereby send you a report of our school operations, &c., for the past season.

You are already informed, and so is the department, that this is a boarding-school. The children are thus kept, with a good degree of regularity, in course of instruction. There is not, and never has been, any difficulty in obtaining scholars: if one leaves, there are many ready to take the vacant place.

There has been no change, during the season, in our list of managers. But little hindrance has occurred from sickness, and an increased interest on the part of the older pupils is manifest, many of whom are becoming respectable scholars. Those who have parents to encourage them will not fall below the standard of scholarship expected of any who have been trained in more favored portions of the enlightened community.

In our domestic arrangements, we try to have the children, as their age will admit, share in the work. The girls ply the needle, and the boys the hoe and axe, though not so much as to interfere with regular hours of study. By constant supervision, an effort is made to have the scholars behave themselves becomingly, and to respect each other, as having a character to establish by careful and consistent conduct. It is encouraging to witness progress, though slow in its development; it is pleasing to notice occasional indications of gratitude, of sincere desire to be benefited by the opportunity afforded. It is to be hoped such may continue to be the case, as it doubtless will, unless interrupted by national negotiations, causing changes, and consequent relinquishing of educational institutions.

Studies have been attended to during the past season about as follows: 1st class in geography, 10; 2d class in geography, 5; 1st class in arithmetic, 4; 2d class in aritmetic, 5; 3d class in arithmetic, 5; elements of astronomy, 15; composition, 11; writing, 18; reading and spelling, 27; alphabet, 1.

In addition to our school operations, preaching to the natives has been regularly attended to on each sabbath. Six of the school children, and two others, have united themselves with the church since our last report. As a general thing, attendance on Sabbath meetings by the people is small. Our greatest source of encouragement is the educating of youth. Their minds favorably impressed, and properly

enlightened, is the great hope of the race, the only promising way of permanently benefiting the long neglected aborigines of our country.

Respectfully, yours,

ELIZABETH S. MORSE, *Teacher.*
F. G. PRATT, *Superintendent.*

Major T. Moseley, Jr.,
Indian Agent, Fort Leavenworth Agency.

No. 28.

Friends' Shawnee Labor School,
Ninth month 16, 1852.

Respected Friend: In compliance with thy request, we send our annual report of the situation of Friends' Shawnee Labor School, situated on the Shawnee Reservation, about five miles west of Westport.

Since our report for 1851, there have been forty-six Indian youth of both sexes, between the ages of six and eighteen years, several of whom are orphans belonging to six tribes, who have received literary and religious instruction at this institution, with an average number of thirty in attendance.

Of the above number, ten have been received into the school during the past year; their ages vary from six to thirteen years; none of them had any previous knowledge of the English language; and ten have left the institution during the same time. Two of those who have left are young women about settling themselves in life; two others are nearly grown girls, whose services are required at home; three are attending other schools, and three are absent without suitable reasons, and are receiving no instruction. The four young women above mentioned are pretty well qualified to assume the duties of life. Of the twenty-eight now in actual attendance, but six have been two years in school, and nineteen who had no previous instruction have been here less than fifteen months. Of the fifteen admitted last year, whom we still claim as pupils, one reads in the Second Reader, and eight read in the First Reader, and spell any class of English words in and out of the book; the other six have been irregular in their attendance, but spell words of from three to five syllables. Thirteen are learning to write. All speak some English words, and understand most of what is said to them. None of those admitted this year have been in attendance more than three months. Some of them spell easy lessons; and six who have been here but four weeks are still learning the alphabet.

Of the forty-six instructed the past year, eleven read in the Fourth Reader, and have studied arithmetic and geography, and write a legible hand; fourteen read in the Testament; three read in the Third Reader; six in the Second Reader, and eight in the First Reader; eighteen are learning the first lessons of penmanship.

The number of pupils and the different tribes are as follows:

Number of	Shawnees	38
Do.	Delawares	3
Do.	Stockbridges	2
Do.	Munsees	1
Do.	Omahas	1
Do.	Sacs and Foxes	1
	Total	46

There have been about 170 garments made for the children, and 80 pairs of socks, stockings, and mittens knit within the past year; about 60 lbs. of wool spun; 30 yards of linsey, and 34 yards for blankets, wove; and several other pieces, such as blankets, window curtains, &c., made for house use. 700 lbs. of butter, a small quantity of cheese, 2½ barrels of soap, and 260 lbs. of candles, have been made the past year. The girls employ their time, when out of school, in spinning, weaving, sewing, knitting, &c. The domestic work of the girls is divided thus: some of them assist in milking and attending the dairy; some assist in washing and ironing; two help in the kitchen, and two in the dining-room, and four take charge of the chambers; and these are changed every two weeks, so as to give each an opportunity of being instructed in the different branches of house-keeping. The teacher and boys have cut about 100 cords of wood for the use of the family, tended the garden, and done some other work on the farm.

We have 228 acres of land in fence, and the proceeds furnish the table, and a surplus for sale of from two to four hundred dollars' worth annually; but this amount of produce sold is not sufficient to meet the demands of the laborer in the cultivation of the soil.

We generally employ two farmers by the year at about $150 each, but at the present time we have but one. We have had one Indian on the farm for nearly four months the present year, and some others by the day. There is now employed on the farm but one man, by the name of William H. Harnaday, a member of the Society of Friends.

Wilson Hobbs as teacher; Zelinda Hobbs, his wife, assists in the family. Rebecca H. Jenks as matron, and Ellen Harnaday to assist in the kitchen. Cornelius Douglas, superintendent; and Phebe W. Douglas, his wife, has charge of the clothing department.

The salaries of superintendents and teachers are estimated at $300 for a male and female, whether teachers of books or labor, and none are allowed the privilege of trading, by way of speculation, whilst in the employ of the institution.

All persons employed by the committee in charge for procuring laborers have hitherto been members of the Society of (Orthodox) Friends, and a report of the general department, both of the children and their teachers, is forwarded every three months to said committee, in answer to certain questions from the general committee.

The children are boarded and clothed without any aid from the Indians, except a very few of their parents furnish a part of their clothing; and, in addition to the proceeds of the farm, the institution is supported at an expense of about $1,500 annually, which sum is raised

by a proportionment among the members of the three yearly meetings, which have this institution under charge; that is, Baltimore furnishes from one to two hundred dollars; Ohio, from three to four hundred dollars; and Indiana one thousand dollars.

Friends have been laboring among the Ohio Shawnees about fifty years; and it hath uniformly been their practice, whilst instructing the Indian in the use of tools and civilized habits, to teach them the benign principles of the Gospel.

Thy friend,

CORNELIUS DOUGLAS,
Superintendent.

THOMAS MOSELEY, JR.

No. 29.

POTTAWATOMIE AGENCY,
September 22, 1852.

SIR: The condition of the Indians comprised within this agency has not been materially changed since I forwarded my last annual communication.

The Pottawatomies, the larger of the two tribes comprised in the same, are now, as formerly, engaged to a limited extent in agriculture, and since my connexion with them, have made but little if any advancement towards bettering their condition. With the ample funds set apart by the government to aid them, they should now be much further advanced in the culture of the soil and other kindred pursuits of a civilized community; but they perform all kinds of manual labor with great reluctance, and very few of them have been induced to abandon their deep-rooted improvident habits.

As the nation is destitute of any organization, those who trespass are subject to no penalty; therefore those who are laboring to better their present condition have no assurance that they will be permitted to enjoy the fruits of their toil, for the less industrious and dishonest part of said tribe convert whatever of stock or grain they may come across to their own immediate wants. More than two-thirds of the nation cultivate only very small patches for summer subsistence, and rely upon their annuity to support them through the winter, and I do not believe that there are more than twenty families who could live, with any degree of comfort, without an annuity.

My remarks in regard to the Pottawatomie Indians will apply to the Kanzas tribe in many respects. But the Kanzas Indians are far more wild in their disposition, and uncivilized in their habits, than the Pottawatomies. They possess not a single feature towards civilization, and seem not to desire any. They live in miserable huts or camps, and not one has a cabin. They cultivate enough ground to give them a fair supply of corn, &c., and I am informed by the traders among them that, for several years past, they have had a surplus, which they have sold to Santa Fé traders at fair prices.

In regard to the missions within this agency, I refer you to the reports of their respective superintendents. The Catholic mission is the more extensive of the two in the Pottawatomie country. Much cannot be expected from the Methodist mission among the Kanzas Indians, as it will take time to operate on their prejudices against schools. But I make no distinctions, as it is presumed they all labor with a laudable zeal to advance the cause they profess to have in view.

You are aware that the liquor trade cannot be suppressed entirely, especially until the chiefs and headmen oppose it. I have used my utmost efforts against it—have had some offenders confined; but of what avail it will be, others must judge. I have sent several *white men* from the country, for conduct in opposition to the settled rule of the department, although they professed to be in some wise connected with the Pottawatomie nation of Indians.

A strong feeling is expressed among the whites and half-breeds of the border tribes to elect and send forward a delegate to Congress, and my co-operation has been solicited; although I am of the opinion the Indians need some organization, so as to insure something like a speedy civilization, the population cannot exceed three hundred persons who have the most remote idea of the object of a government, and many of these are men of the most abandoned character. The Indians, in my opinion, need some government of an elementary character; but, until the government of the United States extinguishes the title to their lands, I cannot see the propriety of electing a delegate.

I am, sir, very respectfully,

FRANCIS W. LEA,
Indian Agent.

Col. D. D. Mitchell,
Superintendent Indian Affairs, St. Louis, Missouri.

No. 30.

Kanzas Indian Manual Labor School,
September 1, 1852.

Sir: In compliance with instructions, I have the honor to submit the following, together with the accompanying document, as my report of the Kanzas Manual Labor School for the year ending August 31, 1852.

By an examination of the statistical document which accompanies this paper, you will find the names and number of students which have been in the school during the year; and by reference to the quarterly reports, you may find the length of time that each scholar has spent in school. As to progress, we can only say that they are all yet in their primary studies. The school having but recently commenced, we can say but little as to the prospects of the future. Sometimes we have encouraging hopes, and at other times the prospects are very gloomy. During the past year we have had considerable sickness in the mission family, and some among the children at school, but at present all enjoy tolerable health.

Crops are good this season, both on the mission farm and among the Indians. But these Indians are such reckless creatures, that I am told they have already commenced selling their corn for anything that they can get for it, though it should be a mere trifle; and so in a few months they will be begging and stealing again, just as bad as if they had made nothing.

It is unfortunate that they live on the Santa Fé road, for they are certainly a great annoyance to those who are compelled to pass through their country with stock, or anything else which they can steal.

But, perhaps, by prudent and well-directed efforts, the rising generation may be improved, and influenced to take a different course from that followed by their parents.

Respectfully submitted:

THOMAS JOHNSON,
Superintendent.

Hon. F. W. Lea, *Indian Agent.*

No. 31.

Pottawatomie Baptist Manual Labor School,
September, 1852.

Sir: The time has come for me to report to you the condition of the school under our charge, and it affords me no small degree of pleasure to do so to a gentleman so noted for his impartiality, and earnest desire for the advancement of this people, as yourself.

During the past year, as you are well aware, many changes have taken place among those connected with the institution. Our efforts have been much retarded by various causes which we could not control. Twice during the year the school has been interrupted by severe sickness. But, as general health has been restored, we have been enabled to resume our work more vigorously.

The following statement will show the present condition of the school, viz: Enrolled for the present quarter, sixty pupils; the average attendance per day about forty. The school is divided into various classes, which are arranged as follows, viz:

1st class—Rhetorical Guide, 4.
2d class—McGuffin's Third Reader, 12.
3d class—McGuffin's Second Reader, 12.
4th class—McGuffin's First Reader, 8.
5th class—Goodrich's First Reader, 7.
6th and 7th classes—Alphabet and first spelling lessons.
1st class arithmetic, 11.
2d class arithmetic, 16.
1st class geography, 10.
2d class geography, 6.
English grammar, 3.
Writing, 14.

The girls are all taught needle-work. Several of the classes have made considerable advancement, while others are only making a start to improve. We find, by experience, that our children generally have good capacity for improvement; and were it not for the irregular manner in which many of them are kept at school, we should, doubtless, soon see a more decided improvement.

With regard to the people around us, many of them begin to feel more deeply the necessity of educating their children. But there are many who are degrading themselves by intemperance and other vices. This is a matter we deeply deplore. Could the ruinous practice of liquor traffic be broken up, we might hope that soon this moral wilderness would be transferred into a cultivated and enlightened region of peace and happiness.

Permit me, sir, in conclusion, to assure you of our highest esteem and confidence.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

D. LYKINS,
Superintendent P. B. School.

Major F. W. Lea,
United States Indian Agent.

No. 32.

St. Mary's Pottawatomie Mission, Nebraska Territory,
September 24, 1852.

In compliance with your request, I beg leave to send you the annual report of this mission. The Catholic Pottawatomie Manual Labor School, after years of toil and hardship, begins to emerge from its humble and insignificant condition. Our arrangements with the government oblige us to have a manual labor school for boys and girls, a field to raise produce, and other suitable means to carry out the views of the contracting parties. It is our aim to make our farm a sort of "model farm" for the Indians. We have one hundred and seventy acres under fence, ninety-five of which are under cultivation. We have planted this year sixty acres in corn, twenty-five in oats, six in potatoes, and the balance in turnips, hemp, and buckwheat. We raise a great many cattle, as much for our own sake as for that of the Indians, hoping to induce them to follow our example. With much ado, we have succeeded the last year in prevailing upon them to break down their old-fashioned corn patches, and to make, in various places, large square common fields, where they have now enough land for all their purposes. An Indian is very little inclined to enlarge his field, because he is afraid he will have to work too hard; it is a considerable task to wind him up and to coax him to industry. If you hold up to him the prospect of an abundant crop in his garden and field, and tell him how well his family could live upon it, he will not fail to answer you that it is all very true, but that it would cost rather too much hard labor. All do not follow our advice as promptly as we could wish, yet we have reason to be satisfied with them. Our Catholic Indians around the

mission have this season an abundance of produce, and their surplus corn may amount to six or seven thousand bushels. It is reported that a new road will be opened from Fort Leavenworth to the mouth of the Republican fork, where the United States propose to establish a new military post: this road would pass through our village, and become the highway to Santa Fé and Fort Laramie. This plan would benefit our people, for they would then find a market for their produce.

Our schools are well frequented, and we flatter ourselves that the Indians derive much benefit from them. The boy's school, which is entirely separated from that of the girls, has admitted during the year 76 scholars, and has averaged 50, as may be seen from the tabular report. The whole number of girls that have been admitted is 96, and the average in daily attendance is 62. The boys that attend the school are generally too young to render us any material help on the farm; they are well disposed, enjoy good health, and bid fair to become useful members of society. They love the school and their teachers, and cheerfully do any light work that may be ordered them. It is a rule with us to make the oldest boys work a little every day, before or after school-hours, in order to make them contract habits of industry. We love these children and feel happy in working for them; we only regret that it is not an easier task to make them keep clean. Their application is moderate and regular, and they evince a laudable zeal and emulation to make progress in their studies. Their time is always divided between study, manual labor, and recreation. Morning and evening they say their prayers together in the school-rooms, and every Sunday they attend the service of the church.

The ladies of the Sacred Heart have charge of the female department, and they acquit themselves of their duty with credit. It is but just to say that they continue to win the favor and approbation of the tribe. The attendance at school is regular and full, and the new buildings, a dining-room and dormitory, will add much to their comfort. They teach all the branches of a plain English education—spelling, reading, writing, English grammar, history, geography, and Christian doctrine; the girls are also taught sewing, embroidering, knitting, and spinning. Some of the oldest pupils are occasionally appointed to help in the kitchen, wash-house, garden, or dairy-yard to milk the cows. We believe it our duty to fit them for the practical duties of after life; and no pains are spared to make them dutiful children, pious Christians, good scholars, and clean housekeepers. They are frequently told to be modest in their demeanor, obedient to their parents, faithful to their friends, and constant in the practice of piety and virtue.

The peace and harmony of this settlement is now seldom disturbed by war parties, or alarming reports of invasion. The Pawnees have formerly been accused of stealing our horses, but no complaints have lately been heard on that score. Our Indians have this summer smoked peace with them, whilst on a buffalo hunt in the upper country.

The Pottawatomie Prairie Indians have not yet laid aside their wild and uncivilized mode of living; they are averse to work, and live in wretched cabins and wigwams. They paint their faces and delight in all sorts of motley and fantastical dress and trappings. They are unfortunately addicted to liquor. Some unprincipled whites and half-

breeds, too lazy to work, sell them whiskey, and cheat the intoxicated dupes out of their horses and ponies, and even out of their guns and blan kets. But we look for a better state of things. Our agent, Major Lea, who is very popular with them, has taken efficient measures to put a stop to this evil. His energies may be severely taxed; but we doubt not that he will succeed in suppressing this unholy traffic, and that these Indians will soon become sober and industrious.

Yours, respectfully,

J. B. DUERINCK,
Superintendent of Manual Labor School.

Major F. Lea, *Indian Agent.*

No. 33.

Sac and Fox Agency, *October* 3, 1852.

Sir: In obedience to the regulations of the department, I present the following as my annual report of the condition of the Indian tribes within this agency. The fact of my having to accompany a delegation of the Sac and Fox Indians to Washington has caused me to be absent from my agency since the ninth of August until the 30th ultimo. My report, therefore, will be more brief, and perhaps less satisfactory, than it would otherwise have been.

In my former report I informed you that the Sacs and Foxes had suffered greatly from small-pox and other diseases, and that I was of opinion, from the best information I could then obtain, that about three hundred of them had died since the last of May, 1851. I am now convinced that the mortality last year in this tribe was greater than I supposed it to be when I made my former report, and I regret to state that a large number of deaths also occurred among them during the past winter from pneumonia and other diseases, while they were absent on their winter hunt. The country in which they live is certainly a healthy one, and the rapid decrease which is evidently going on in this tribe is to be ascribed, in part, to their frequently indulging in drunken frolics. The liquor is brought into the country by members of the tribe. Women, generally, are selected for the purpose of going to the State, a distance of fifty miles, to procure it; and when brought into the Indian country it is immediately buried, some distance from their lodges. Generally speaking, it is impossible for an agent to find any quantity of liquor about their lodges during a drunken spree; for, to avoid the risk of having it spilt, they bring it from their hiding-place in small quantities. Another fruitful source of disease is this: living principally by the chase, hunger and necessity often compel them to expose themselves greatly during very inclement weather, and diseases of every description appear to be more frequent, and to make more fearful ravages among them, than their more temperate and civilized neighbors.

I regret to state, that under existing treaties I see but little prospect of this tribe abandoning their uncivilized habits, or making any change which will be calculated to ameliorate the condition of the masses and

advance them in an agricultural and moral point of view. They generally live in towns; have a common field, in which every family of the town has a small lot marked out for it by the leading braves, with the sanction of the chief.

The distribution of land to cultivate is often very unequal; the braves are governed more by their predilection for persons or families, in making a division, than by any principle of justice. In fact, the common men of this tribe, those who have never killed an enemy in battle, have no voice in council, and are not considered as occupying a position which entitles them to speak concerning the management of the affairs of the nation. Under the old system of paying annuities to the chiefs, this despotic rule was more rigidly enforced than it is at present; for, so long as the chief-payment was practised, the credits given by traders, based upon the expectation of payment out of the annuity, were given to the chiefs, and a few braves distributed the goods purchased as their own whims or caprices dictated. Such a system of paying annuities was well calculated to increase the power of the chiefs, and to crush and destroy every manly and independent feeling in the bosom of the masses.

The present system of paying annuities to heads of families has had a salutary influence in breaking down, to some extent, the despotic influence of a few chiefs and braves. Now, many of the common people are anxious to abandon their towns and have small fields made for them. They say the game is rapidly receding; that it will soon be gone; and that they know they will suffer greatly in a few years if they do not abandon the chase and turn their attention to cultivating the earth like the white man. The only fund belonging to this tribe, applicable to agricultural purposes, is the $30,000 set apart by the 5th article of the treaty of 1842; and this fund, you are aware, can only be expended by the chiefs, with the approbation of the agent. Unfortunately, the chiefs are more jealous of losing their influence over their tribe than desirous of advancing the comfort and happiness of their people, believing, as they do, that if every family is permitted to have a separate field their towns will be broken up, and their influence and control over their people greatly diminished. They invariably refuse to apply any portion of this fund for the purpose of making small fields for the individual members of the tribe, unless the applicant is some favorite brave. Keokuk, the principal chief of the Sacs, is the only chief in the tribe who is willing to have this fund applied to making separate fields. If the other chiefs could be induced to entertain as liberal views as Keokuk, with the aid of this fund, in a few years their people would be placed in a condition where they would be able to raise an abundance of grain to subsist on, and a foundation would be laid for a rapid and beneficial change in their habits, manners, and customs. Keokuk, however, stands alone; and no agent would feel authorized to expend this fund without the consent of the other chiefs. It is a great misfortune for this tribe that so large a fund should have been placed under the control of the chiefs; for, as a general rule, they are too proud and too lazy to work themselves, and are unwilling to do anything which will tend to make their people more comfortable and independent.

There is another subject to which I will respectfully call the attention of the department; it is the practice of recognising obligations or requests, signed by the chiefs of Indian tribes, to pay debts contracted by individual members of the tribe, as binding and authorizing the amount to be deducted from the annuity of the tribe. I am well satisfied, from what I heard from the Indians, that such a course is well calculated to make Indians dishonest; and it certainly destroys every inducement on the part of the Indian to economise his means. An Indian who has been in the habit of paying all his debts, when he sees that his proportion of the *per capita* annuity is taken to pay the debts of the dishonest and profligate portion of the tribe, feels the injustice of the rule, and they often refuse to pay their debts when they have both the inclination and ability to do so, because they believe others will not pay, and that their traders will get the chiefs to sign requests to pay all debts out of their national annuity. Entertaining these views, they consider it absurd for them to pay their credits, when large numbers will not, and that their proportion of the national annuity will be taken to pay all debts which the chiefs may request to have paid. Such a practice as this, if recognised and allowed by the government for any length of time, would make any tribe of Indians reckless in incurring debts, for under it the dishonest Indian, who never pays, derives a greater benefit from the annuity than he who honestly pays all his credits. Another objection to these obligations is, that they are only signed by the chiefs, men who have long been tampered with by traders, and who can at any time, for the consideration of a present or bribe, be induced to sign obligations acknowledging debts to be just for a much larger amount than they really owe. This system is injurious to the traders themselves, for the prudent trader, who is unwilling to give a large credit to Indians, and relies upon getting his pay from the person to whom the credit was given, cannot, under it, compete with the don't-care, reckless one, who is willing to give extravagant credits, knowing at the time the individuals themselves cannot pay, and trusting to obtaining an obligation signed by the chiefs, requesting the payment of their debts out of the national annuity. All who are acquainted with Indian trade know that goods, when Indians purchase them for cash, are obtained at low prices, and that traders invariably sell their goods on a credit at a heavy advance, in order to cover the risk; it therefore follows that this system is calculated to benefit an imprudent, reckless trader, more than one who is disposed to conduct his business prudently. I am well satisfied that the interest of the Indians requires that such obligations should not receive any further countenance from the department. As the Sacs and Foxes are the only tribe in this agency addicted to the chase, I will suggest, with due deference for the opinions of others, that, in my opinion, the only plan which can be relied upon with any reasonable hope of success, for the purpose of civilizing this and other tribes whose manners and customs are analogous, is to make new treaties with them, obtain from them their surplus lands, open them to white settlers, get the consent of the Indians to appropriate their present annuities to aiding them in agricultural pursuits, and establishing and supporting schools; concentrate the Indian population, so that, to obtain subsistence, they will be compelled to fol-

low agricultural pursuits; when this is done, then, and not until that period, will the wilder tribes abandon their love for the chase, and the hope that they will be able to obtain a support thereby.

Chippewas of Swan creek and Black river.

This little tribe have raised fine crops this season, and have an abundance of provisions to subsist their families. They are generally quiet and well-behaved, and have made very considerable advancement towards becoming a civilized people. During the past season they have enjoyed fine health, and the only things they complain of are, that the Sacs and Foxes frequently depredate upon their property, and that the government, after paying them their annuity of $800, for two years after they emigrated, have seen proper to then deduct $500 from the annuity, for the purpose of paying a portion of the tribe remaining in the country from which they emigrated. They represent, that when they emigrated they understood that their entire annuity was to be paid here. I respectfully call your attention to this subject. If their representations are correct, I know justice will be done them; if not, such an explanation, I hope, will be given as will give satisfaction to them.

I will again call your attention to a suggestion made in my former report, that it would greatly promote the interest of this tribe to confederate them with the Ottowas. Their manners and customs, language, and *per capita* annuities, are about the same, and I feel confident that such an arrangement could be made, and that it would be advantageous to both tribes.

Ottowas.

This tribe, I am informed, some twelve years since, were very indolent and dissipated, and gave but little hopes of making much improvement; they are now one of the soberest, most orderly and industrious tribes on the Missouri frontier. They have abandoned most of the Indian customs and adopted those of the whites. Their industry this season has been well rewarded. In passing through their country you see not only comfortable houses, furnished with chairs, tables, and bedsteads, but also good farms, on which they raise an abundance of corn, oats, potatoes, &c. I do not know of any tribe of Indians in this portion of the Indian territory who deserve more credit for the laudable zeal evinced by them in endeavoring to use every exertion in their power to become an educated, civilized, and Christian people. They have not any school among them, but their children are placed under the care of their missionary, Rev. Jotham Meeker, who sends them to the missionary schools in the Kanzas and Pottawatomie agencies. Too much praise cannot well be given to this worthy gentleman for the deep interest ever exhibited by him in everything touching the interests of this tribe; and to him, more than to all others, are the Ottowas indebted for the rapid and beneficial improvement in their condition. I respectfully refer you to his accompanying report for further information concerning this tribe.

The Ottowas complain, and justly too, of the depredations committed

on their property by the Sacs and Foxes. They frequently steal their plough-horses during the farming season, and subject the Ottowas to great inconvenience and loss. The Ottowas have presented and proved up, before me, a number of claims for depredations committed on their property. These claims were presented to the Sacs and Foxes, in general council, and they peremptorily refused to pay one and all of them. In compliance with the law, you are aware that I forwarded these claims to you, that such further steps might be taken as would be proper to obtain satisfaction for the injuries done. After examining the law, you were of opinion that it did not apply to depredations of Indians committed on the property of Indians, and that no authority existed for ordering the annuity of the depredating tribe to be taken to pay for such injuries. As the Ottowas are an agricultural people, and their tribe but small, it is highly important for the government to protect them in the enjoyment of their property: I therefore request that the attention of Congress be called to the necessity of further legislation on the subject of depredations, and that Congress be requested to pass such laws as will protect the property of the Ottowas when wrongfully taken by their lazy and unscrupulous neighbors. I would also suggest, that, as the department has heretofore directed that Indian annuities were liable for such depredations, and as the Ottowas confidently expected to obtain, in a peaceable way, full redress for these injuries, and as they have refrained from attempting to retaliate, would it not be an act of justice for Congress to appropriate, for the benefit of the Ottowas, an amount sufficient to indemnify them for the losses sustained?

Respectfully yours,

JOHN R. CHENAULT,
Indian Agent.

Hon. Luke Lea,
Commissioner Indian Affairs, Washington City.

No. 34.

Ottowa Mission,
October 4, 1852.

Sir: Since my last annual report the Ottowas have had but little sickness among them, although there have been more deaths than occurred during the previous year. Ever since the earliest recollection of the oldest of them, they have steadily and rapidly decreased in numbers until within a few years' past. Previous to their emigrating to this country they were extremely indolent, intemperate, and profligate; but soon after their arrival here, they commenced building houses, raising stock, making rail fences, and cultivating their lands. The United States government and benevolent societies made various efforts to improve them in habits of industry, morality, and temperance; and were in these respects successful; still the inbred diseases contracted by them while in their career of profligacy caused a continual decrease of numbers to go on until the year 1847, when their number, according to the payment roll, had descended to 205. They them-

selves estimate that in about 1825 they numbered 1,500. About 300 emigrated into this country from Ohio in 1837–'38. In February, 1848, they, in general council, without the immediate suggestion of any white person, no one but Ottowas being present, formed and wrote a law in their own language, the following being a literal translation, viz:

"Whiskey on the Ottowa land cannot come. If any person shall send for it, or bring it into the Ottowa country, he who sends or he who brings shall pay five dollars, and the whiskey shall be destroyed. Any one sending or bringing the second time, shall forfeit all of his annuity money. For the third offence he shall be delivered over to the United States officers, to try the severity of the white man's laws."

The penalties contained in the above, together with those in all of their printed laws, twenty-five in number, are most rigidly enforced by the proper officers; so that since February, 1848, there has been but one violation of the whiskey law; consequently we see a gradual improvement in their houses, on their farms, in their habits, health, and numbers, their last payment enrolment having advanced, as you are aware, to near 230.

While speaking about their laws, permit me to say, further, that about two months ago I happened accidentally to step into a house when a case was being tried. There sat the two judges examining the laws. The plaintiff and defendant were both present, each having his lawyer and witnesses. After the evidence was given and the lawyers were listened to, the judges decided the case strictly according to their laws. The plaintiff, defendant, judges, lawyers, and witnesses, were all Ottowas.

The Ottowas have, you know, the present year erected a shop, purchased tools and iron, and employed a blacksmith. Their mill, too, has continued in successful operation, furnished with a regular salaried miller. They have this fall made an effort to purchase about one hundred bushels of seed-wheat; but failing, they now intend to purchase that amount of spring wheat, and be ready to sow it when the season arrives. Their fields have produced abundantly this season; and were it not the case that some thievish tribes depredate largely upon their hogs, they would be well supplied with all the necessaries of life. Thirty of their children are now enjoying the benefits of schools among the Shawnees and Pottawatomies.

Religious instruction is continued regularly on the Sabbath; meetings are well attended. The sound of singing and prayer is heard every morning and evening in many of their dwellings. The Sabbath is devoted to rest by almost every member of the tribe. Their former superstitious customs have been dropped, and all admit that Christianity is good, and that there is safety nowhere else. The undersigned still endeavors to devote his time almost exclusively to the temporal and spiritual welfare of the Ottowas.

Most respectfully, I am, dear sir, yours, &c.,

JOTHAM MEEKER,

Missionary of the American Baptist Missionary Union.

J. R. Cherault, Esq.,

U. S. Indian Agent, Sac and Fox Agency.

No. 35.

Osage River Agency,
September 1, 1852.

Sir: Within the limits of this agency are comprised the Wea, Peoria, Piankeshaw, and Miami tribes of Indians. The Kaskaskias, as a tribe, have a nominal existence only; there remain but few of them, and those few, by intermixture with the others, have lost their distinctive tribal existence.

Of the three first-named tribes I had occasion to speak encouragingly in my last annual report; and it gives me pleasure to say, that their course of conduct during the last twelve months has fully met the expectations I had formed in regard to them. In habits of sobriety, they will compare favorably with the same amount of white population promiscuously selected in any part of the country. They have not only almost unanimously taken a pledge of total abstinence from all intoxicating drinks, but by solemn ordinance of their councils they have resolved to prevent its introduction among them, and have appointed persons whose duty it is to destroy it wherever found—an ordinance which I have reason to believe is strictly and rigidly enforced.

A recent personal visit to their cabins, and inspection of their fields, afforded me the highest gratification, in the evidences of increasing comfort and improvement, both physically and morally. Justice to my interpreter, Baptiste Peoria, requires that I should say, that to his exertions and influence is mainly attributable the fortunate change in the habits of these people. Himself a reformed inebriate, possessed of much good sense and benevolence, his untiring efforts are directed to the reformation of his people.

The condition of the Miamies presents a very different picture. Although living in close proximity, speaking the same language, and in habits of constant social intercourse with their brothers, the Piankeshaws, Peorias, and Weas, yet in disposition and habits they are greatly dissimilar. The receipt of a large annuity has encouraged in them habits of indolence and dissipation, and their vicinity to the whiskey shops of the white man on the State border enables them to indulge an appetite which, with the red man, seems almost innate. Unfortunately, their chiefs, with one honorable exception, are all drunkards, and by their evil example encourage habits and dispositions which are resulting disastrously to their tribe. Since their emigration to this country—a period of only six years—their number is diminished more than one half; sickness, disease, and murder—the result of dissipation—are constantly thinning their ranks. Recently one of their women committed fratricide, by plunging a knife into the breast of her brother. The members of this tribe labor less, have fewer of the comforts of life, but more of vice and wretchedness, than either of the others. They are all subject to frequent trespasses from their neighbors, the Osages, and Sacs and Foxes, who make a virtue of skill and cunning in theft. Their actual loss in horses and other stock amounts annually to a considerable sum.

In connexion with this subject I may remark, that observation and reflection have served to confirm my previously expressed views, that

the extension of the criminal laws of our country over the Indian territory, the concentration of the different tribes within narrower limits, the recognition among them of individual rights, and a code of municipal laws suited to their condition, are indispensable to the reform sought by our government to be effected among this unfortunate race of human beings.

The fact that a large portion of the Miamies continue to reside in Indiana, is a source of constant complaint and jealousy with those who are here. A belief exists among them that the number remaining there is greatly over-estimated, and that, consequently, the amount of annuity paid to those who are here is proportionably diminished. Without the utmost care in the enumeration and enrolment, this result may be expected, as it is evidently their interest to exaggerate their number, when by doing so they increase the amount they are to receive.

I regret to say that the Wea and Piankeshaw school, under the superintendence of Rev. D. Lykens, has not prospered since the first of January as it did before that time. By the death of Mrs. Lykens, matron superintendent, and of Miss Osgood, the principal teacher, the institution sustained a loss which, for the time being, has severely affected its usefulness. The successful teaching of Indian youth is a most difficult task, and requires in their teachers and those having charge of them a rare combination of patience, industry, tact, and management. In this department Miss Osgood had few equals.

Mr. Lykens has succeeded in procuring the services of Miss McCoy, who has had considerable experience, and, as I learn, success among the Pottawatomies; and a recent examination of the pupils, who number about twenty-five, justifies me in recommending to the department the continuance of its favor and patronage. Accompanying this are the reports of the superintendents and teachers.

It is perhaps proper that I should state that there have arrived about thirty of the Six Nations, or New York Indians, who are stopping temporarily within the bounds of this agency. Some of them are in a very destitute condition—are poor, have contracted disease on their journey hither, and are dependent upon the charitable assistance and contributions of others. When able to travel they will join their brethren, whose territory is south of and contiguous to that of the Miamies. This territory and people are not assigned to any agency, and I beg leave on this subject to refer to a communication I had the honor to make to the department on the 23d December last.

I concur fully with Agent Raiford, of the Creek agency, in the recommendation of an annual meeting, at some central point, of the different Indian agents; but I would extend it so as to embrace all the agents and superintendents east of the Rocky mountains and north of Texas. I would also have the Commissioner attend and preside over the meetings. By this means all might profit by the experience and advice of all the others. Upon all disputed points of policy, if previously submitted, the views of all might be had in writing, with the advantage of free and social interchange of opinions and discussion.

The agents, by their personal intercourse with the Commissioner and Superintendent, would become more fully informed of their views; uniformity and concert of action would follow, and mutual acquaint-

ance would be formed between all the various officers charged with the control and management of this department.

The various employees within this agency have been faithful in the performance of their duties; and, by their habits of strict sobriety and correct moral deportment, have secured the respect and confidence of the Indians, and present them examples which have not been without their influence.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully,

A. M. COFFEY,
Indian Agent

Col. D. D. Mitchell,
Superintendent Indian Affairs.

No. 36.

Wea and Piankeshaw School,
August 20, 1852.

Dear Sir: It once more becomes my duty to report to you the condition of the Wea and Piankeshaw school. How true it is that the tide of time still bears us on for evermore, bearing away from its shores much of the loved and cherished of earth. Change and mutability are written upon all earthly things. I am led to these reflections by circumstances with which you are well acquainted. Some twelve months ago, if I remember rightly, I received you at our door, in the midst of a heavy shower of rain, into the midst of a happy family. Where are they now? A much-loved wife, a promising child, and an esteemed teacher, are tenants of the quiet tomb. They sleep the untroubled sleep of death beneath the "Lone Tree's" shade, upon the edge of the Great Western prairies, far from where their kindred rest, from the homes of their youth, and the friends of their earlier days. But a life well spent in the service of the Divine Master, and offered up as a sacrifice for the advancement of the cause and kingdom of the world's Redeemer, was their's; and this should be the Christian's ardent desire—the Christian's highest aim. I have been led to speak of this matter from the effect it has had on our school and missionary operations. The posts of the fallen have not yet been fully filled, though the teaching department, for the last three months, has been under the efficient management of Miss E. McCoy, from whose report I extract the following:

"You are aware that, in consequence of the deaths of Mrs. Lykins and Miss Osgood, this school was suspended, and the children sent to their own homes. About three months since the greater number of the children were collected in, the school resumed, and placed under my charge. Owing to the absence from school, without books, or any other means of improvement, or even retaining what they had learned, the children forgot much; but they had been so thoroughly instructed and so well disciplined, that they soon regained all they had lost, and are now advancing. Of those present, seven read in McGuffy's First Reader; ten in Goodrich's Third Reader; four of whom study arithmetic

and first lessons in philosophy; four read well in McGuffy's Fourth Reader, study arithmetic, Mitchell's Geography, and first lessons in astronomy. Thirteen are writing. This report may show fewer advanced scholars than the report of last year. Some who were here then have left, and will not return soon. I find the children all teachable, and some of them much attached to their studies. As you understand the manner in which this school was formerly conducted, it is only necessary to say that, as nearly as possible, under present circumstances, it is conducted under the former rules; but, owing to the necessary and frequent absence of our superintendent, and some other unavoidable disadvantages, of which you are aware, the school has not the same facilities for advancement that it formerly had. Yet we would patiently labor on, and await the time when He, who has heavily laid His afflictive hand on this mission, will in mercy supply all deficiencies, and cause this, with all other dispensations of His providence, to prove a blessing to this people. But I cannot close this report without referring to our deeply lamented friends, who now, beneath the 'Lone Tree's' boughs, so silently and sweetly rest from their labors. I feel it but a faint expression when I say too high an estimate cannot be placed upon the untiring efforts, the unwearied zeal, they ever felt in all that pertained to the happiness, temporal and spiritual, of those for whom they labored. To human appearance the loss seems irreparable; but we would desire, by an eye of faith, to look beyond the present, and trust in Him who has taken them away for the future."

I cannot here close this report without expressing my deep gratitude for your unremitting kindness and attention during the trying scenes through which I have been called to pass. It is one of those occasions which we sometimes meet where words are all too weak to express the feelings of the heart. Nor do I feel it right to omit speaking of the exemplary example which you have continually set before the people of your charge, nor of the quiet sobriety and improvement which prevail under your influence. These things are known by all who are acquainted with the people of your agency. In conclusion, sir, permit me to express the hope that these people may long be blessed with your influence and example.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

D. LYKINS,
Superintendent of School.

Col. A. M. Coffey, *Agent, &c.*

No. 37.

Office Superintendent Indian Affairs,
Van Buren, Arkansas, October 15, 1852.

Sir: I have the honor very briefly to lay before you some of the most important events that have transpired within this superintendency since my last annual report, immediately after I had completed the "*per capita*" payments to the "old settlers," or western Cherokees.

On the 24th day of October, 1851, I left Van Buren to obtain the

funds to pay the annuities, &c., for the several tribes within this superintendency, which I received in New Orleans on the 16th day of November, and immediately left for Van Buren. On my arrival at Vicksburg I received a telegraphic despatch from New Orleans, directing me to return to that city for the funds for the payment of the "*per capita*" to the eastern or emigrant Cherokees. I made arrangements with a friend, Major J. G. Heald, of the Choctaw agency, who chanced to be in company with me, to take the annuity moneys and convey them to my office at Van Buren, that the agents might receive and disburse them as soon as practicable. Having made an arrangement so satisfactory, I immediately returned to New Orleans. On my arrival at that city I found that a considerable sum of money had to be coined before I could obtain the sum required to make the payment. I was, therefore, detained in New Orleans until the 10th of December; and on my arrival at the mouth of the Arkansas river I found it so low that it could not be navigated. I was, therefore, compelled to go up White river to Rock Roe, and from thence to Little Rock, by land, where I was detained ten days by low water; and, at one time, I had determined to deposite the funds in the vaults of the sub-treasury, rather than run the risk of transporting the money by land. The Arkansas river, however, rose sufficiently to enable small boats to run; and on the 2d of January, 1852, having secured a boat, I left for Van Buren, at which place I arrived on the 4th of January. I there found that the census-roll had been in my office about a week. It was, however, incomplete, and had to be returned to Mr. Ross for correction. It was again returned to my office by the hands of Mr. David Vann, treasurer of the Cherokee nation, on 23d of January. In order to facilitate the payment, I employed two additional clerks, who were diligently employed, and completed their work on the first day of April last, when I left for Fort Gibson, and commenced the payment on the 5th of April, in accordance with previous notice. That all might have an opportunity of obtaining their "*per capita*" without any unnecessary detention at the time of payment, (thus avoiding expense and exposure,) I notified the people, when I announced the time of the payment, that I would pay the people of certain districts on certain days. The plan adopted worked exceedingly well, avoided all confusion, and was very satisfactory to the people, as none need be detained more than two or three days.

The payment at Fort Gibson was closed on the 5th of May last. I am happy to state that the people generally conducted themselves with propriety during the entire payment, (which, of course, was very gratifying to me.) I have also the pleasure of knowing that my determination of paying at Fort Gibson, rather than at Tahlequah, was approved by a majority of the most intelligent men in the nation, the chief and a few others about Tahlequah excepted. I am, moreover, of the opinion that it would be almost impossible to maintain good order on such occasions in any part of the Cherokee nation except at Fort Gibson. I would not here be understood to intimate that there are none of the Cherokees who are lovers of order, and in every respect good citizens; yet, having only imperfect means of preserving order, they would fail in doing it. Moreover, it would be more grinding to their feelings to have sol-

diers taken as a guard to Tahlequah than to have the payment made at Fort Gibson.

On the receipt of your letter of the 14th February, I immediately went to Fort Smith to see Colonel Wilson, commanding this department of the army, in regard to obtaining from him a military escort to guard the money to the place of payment, and act as a guard during the same. He kindly offered to afford me all the protection in his power. At the same time he asked me how many soldiers I wished for a guard, provided I made the payment at Tahlequah, in conformity with your instructions to me. I told him I would want fifty men, as I deemed a less number insufficient to afford protection at a distance from the fort. He then informed me that it was absolutely beyond his power at that time, as there were not more than fifty efficient men at Fort Gibson.

As your order was discretionary, I immediately determined to pay at Fort Gibson. I would here express my thanks to Major Andrews, and the officers under him, for their willing and energetic co-operation for the preservation of harmony and good order, and to Surgeon J. B. Wells, for his kindness and hospitality to myself and others during the payment.

I have thus minutely entered into all the particulars, that you may judge of the propriety of the course pursued by me in regard to the Cherokee payment. A few, who did not come forward to receive their money at Fort Gibson, were notified, before the close of the payment at that place, that on the 24th of May I would resume the payment at Van Buren, which was accordingly done; and, after some time, the balance unpaid was, by your permission, turned over to agent Butler, thus closing my large account under that head.

I observe that agent Butler, in his report herewith, recommends that Fort Gibson be abandoned. On the other hand, I would advise that the force be increased at that post, as I deem it an important one in many respects; and should it be abandoned, the agents of the Cherokee, Creek, and Seminole nations would be poorly prepared to execute the intercourse law. Suppose white men, of improper character, insinuate themselves into the Indian country, how are they to be removed? And can the government fulfil its treaty obligations to protect them from domestic strife or foreign enemies? I have heard Mr. Butler complain that he could have nothing done by the Cherokee sheriffs, in the way of destroying liquor in the bounds of his agency. In regard to the details of the condition of the people, I would respectfully refer you to the report of agent Butler. The condition of the Choctaws will be seen by the report of agent Wilson, with the enclosed papers.

The Chickasaws have had no agent since the resignation of Captain Harper, until the appointment of Andrew J. Smith, who has not yet arrived at his agency. I however hear that they are doing about as usual. The only subject which seems to excite much interest is the desire to have their invested fund paid out "*per capita*," simply reserving enough to pay their national expenses. Their female school, under the direction of the Methodist church, is still in operation; and

the school in charge of the Presbyterian board is about commencing this fall.

No report has been received from agent Duval. I am informed he is absent on the Rio Grande after some of his negroes. I hear of nothing of importance concerning the Seminoles, except that they are introducing an unusual amount of whiskey into their country, and are selling a great deal to the Creeks. They get the liquor principally at Fort Smith, and take it up the Arkansas river, in flat boats and large canoes, to the mouth of the Canadian; thence to North Fork town, and, by land, through the Creek country; thus causing a good deal of disturbance.

The absence of Colonel Raiford from his agency has prevented me from receiving a report from him of the condition of the Creeks. I am, however, informed that they are doing quite as well as usual, and that the schools, particularly, are doing well. The probability is, Colonel Raiford may have reported direct to you while at Washington city.

The condition of the several tribes composing the Neosho agency will be seen by the report of agent Morrow.

I would remark, in conclusion, that the past season has been very fine in all the country embraced within this superintendency, and the crops are unusually good. The drought of the previous year had been so great that all late crops were entirely cut off, and the consequent scarcity, and, in some instances, want, drove the Indians to exertions that never fail of their reward. There has also been much sickness in all the country, both among the Indians and in the adjoining States.

This report has been delayed in consequence of the remissness of of some of the agents in forwarding their reports.

Very respectfully, &c.,

JOHN DRENNEN,
Superintendent of Indian Affairs, S. S.

Hon. Luke Lea,
Commissioner of Indian Affairs.

No. 38.

Neosho Agency,
October 1, 1852.

Sir: In compliance with the regulations of the Indian department, I have the honor to submit the following report in relation to the affairs of my agency:

The Senecas, at their last annuity payment, numbered 61 men, 44 women, and 72 children—total, 177. No very material change has taken place with them since my last report. They have enjoyed good health, and have raised good crops, which, with proper economy will be sufficient to supply them with breadstuffs. Their proximity to the State of Missouri affords them all the facilities they desire to procure whiskey. A distillery has been in successful operation for a number of years at Enterprise, near the State line. It is now conducted by a Mr. Houghton, who furnishes not only the Senecas, but all other Indians who call upon him, any amount of whiskey they can pay for.

He has been so long engaged in this traffic, and the laws of Missouri are so defective, that it is impossible to detect him, and visit him with such punishment as the nature of his offence merits. I regret to say that the principal chief of the Senecas is a very intemperate man, and is doing great injury to his people by his example.

In my last annual report, I called the attention of the department to the condition of the Seneca mill. It still remains in the same condition, which, if not soon repaired, will be entirely useless. The chiefs have recently had a talk with me upon this subject, and requested me to say to the department that they are anxious to have it repaired, and propose that it be done under the direction of their agent, upon the following plan, viz: That their agent be authorized and instructed to appoint a competent millwright as miller, whose duty it shall be to erect a new dam, and repair the mill in every part where it is defective; who shall hold his appointment for two years, and receive the profits arising from the mill for the same period, except that he be required to grind for the Senecas free of toll. The pay of miller, and the proceeds of the mill for two years, would amply compensate any one who would undertake the contract. By this arrangement, the government would lose nothing, and the Indians would be greatly benefited. Should these views meet with the approbation of the department, I would be pleased to receive instructions to place the work under contract, and have it done upon the plan suggested.

The Senecas and Shawnees.—This tribe numbered, at their last annuity payment, 68 men, 94 women, and 158 children—total, 290. They are the most industrious and enterprising Indians under my charge. Many of them have enlarged their farms this year, and are cultivating them in a manner that would favorably compare with their white neighbors in Missouri. Their crops this year have been very good; they will raise enough to supply the ordinary wants of their people, and some will have a surplus. They have enjoyed good health, and have had but few deaths amongst them. John Jackson, their chief counsellor, died with cholera, at Kanzas, in May last. He was an ornament to the Indian race. He was an honest man, and highly esteemed by all who knew him. His loss will be seriously felt by his tribe.

The Senecas and the Senecas and Shawnees are still opposed to sending their children to school, or admitting missionaries into their country. They adhere to many of their ancient customs, and partake of as few of the habits and manners of the white people as possible. They have their festivals and various kinds of dances, at which they generally all attend. Their dog-dance comes off the first full moon in each year, and continues about one week. At this dance they sacrifice a white dog. He is gaudily dressed with different colored ribbons, and hung by the neck to a gallows erected for that purpose. He remains hanging in this situation for three days; he is then taken down and burned, and his ashes scattered to the four winds. They imagine that he goes to the spirit country, and is commissioned by them to bear such news as they wish communicated to their deceased friends and relatives. The ceremony is conducted with great solemnity, and all appear to be deeply impressed with its reality.

The Quapaws.—This tribe numbered, at their last annuity payment,

81 men, 84 women, and 149 children—total, 314. Last winter and spring, almost every Indian belonging to this tribe had the measles; and, from the best information I can obtain, at least forty persons fell victims to the disease. The Quapaws are very indolent and lazy; but few of them like to engage in agricultural pursuits. Nothing but starvation staring them in the face stimulates them to labor. They were prevented by sickness, and an unusually wet spring, from planting as large crops as usual. They will, however, raise enough to subsis upon.

In view of the expiration of their annuity, they express themselves deeply concerned. It is a crisis they are illy prepared to meet. They are very poor, and, when the government ceases to pay them an annuity, I cannot conceive how they are to subsist. My opinion is that but few of them will remain in their own country. A large majority of them, in all probability, will wander off among the wild Indians of the prairies, and "the places that now know them will soon know them no more forever."

The Crawford Seminary, which had an existence in the Quapaw country for near ten years, closed about the middle of February last, of which I have upon a former occasion informed the department. Mr. Patterson, who was superintendent of this school from its creation to its termination, has left the Indian country without making any arrangements for a successor. The Indians express themselves as *tired* of schools, and are decidedly opposed to the continuation of a school in their country. All who have been educated at this school, except the present United States interpreter, have resumed all their original habits, and are now as wild and untamed as though they had never been within the classic walls of the Crawford Seminary.

The Osages enrolled, at their last annuity payment, 1,643 men, 1,622 women, and 1,676 children—total, 4,941. I am satisfied that they enrolled more than their tribe number. In fact one of the chiefs acknowledged to me, after the payment was over, that he had done so, giving as a reason that his band was largely indebted to a certain trader for their outfit, and that the more people he would enrol the more it would enable them to pay their debts. I am inclined to believe that the same game was played off by all the chiefs. They have been well trained in such tricks, and I think are pretty apt scholars. I had great trouble in getting a portion of two bands to attend the last payment. They were no doubt influenced to stay away by one whose interest it was that they should. After waiting a few days, they finally came in, and the payment went off to the satisfaction of all concerned.

The Osages left on their winter hunt early last fall, before receiving any part of their annuity. This was a serious disappointment to them. They obtained from their traders an outfit upon credit, but not sufficient for all to be well clad and supplied with guns and ammunition. They returned earlier than usual in consequence of their destitute condition. Many of them were entirely without blankets, or anything to protect them from the inclemency of the weather, except buffalo skins. They complained greatly to me because the government had not sent their annuity goods early in the fall, so that they could have had the benefit of them in the winter, when they most needed them.

In May last I received a letter from Major Chenault, agent for the Sacs and Foxes, requesting me to visit his agency with a delegation of Osages, for the purpose of settling difficulties of a serious nature between the two tribes. As soon as I could make the necessary arrangements, I proceeded to the Sac and Fox agency, accompanied by a delegation of Osage chiefs. Upon our arrival I was sorry to find that Major Chenault had left the day previous for St. Louis, and that I would be deprived of his valuable services in settling a feud which threatened, if not speedily adjusted, to end in a war between the two tribes. Before leaving the Osage country, I despatched a runner with a note to Major Chenault, stating when we would arrive at his agency. The runner, a young Osage, was met by a drunken Sac within a few miles of the Sac agency, and, becoming alarmed at the threats of the Sac, returned without delivering my note. The Osage delegation were kindly received and hospitably treated by the Sacs and Foxes. They assembled in council the next day after our arrival, and amicably adjusted the causes of difficulty between them, and promised to remain in peace and friendship with each other. Dr. Griffith, physician for the Sacs and Foxes, rendered me all the aid in his power to effect a reconciliation between the parties. In justice to the Sacs and Foxes, I must say that their conduct upon this occasion was worthy of great commendation, having far excelled the Osages in courtesy, when they were visited by the Sacs and Foxes, last winter, to adjust the same difficulties.

The Osages were unusually sickly last winter and spring. It is estimated by many that not less than one thousand have died within the last twelve months. George Whitehair, one of the principal chiefs, and the most sensible and managing man in the whole tribe, died in December last. The disease which produced such mortality among them was measles.

The Osages still follow the chase, visiting the plains twice a year in pursuit of the buffalo. I regret to say that there is no disposition manifested by the full-blood Osages to engage in agricultural pursuits. They own neither cattle nor hogs, and are compelled to visit the hunting-grounds to procure a supply of meat. They own no property except horses and mules. As usual, they planted but small patches of corn last spring, which, ere this time, has all been consumed. They returned about six weeks since from their summer hunt, having made a very poor one. They were met by the Comanches in the buffalo country, who treated them quite unfriendly. They would neither trade with the Osages nor permit them to enter their towns or lodges. In several instances they entered the Osage camps, and forcibly wrested from them horses which the Osages had bought from them the year previous. A war party of Osages, Kioways, and Kaws, consisting of about four hundred warriors, went in pursuit of the Pawnees while out on their last hunt. They overtook the Pawnees and attacked them, but, being greatly outnumbered by the Pawnees, they "ingloriously fled," leaving on the ground one war-chief killed, and having killed and scalped one Pawnee woman.

Since the return of the Osages from their hunt, frequent depredations have been committed upon the property of those living on the Verdigris

river. About the 25th of August, thirty-three head of horses and mules were stolen from Tally's band in one night. Next morning a party of Osages set out in pursuit of the thieves. They followed their trail two days, but, becoming discouraged, they returned, having found five of their horses, which had given out. Fortunately, the deputy marshal of the western district of Arkansas was in the Osage country at the time, in pursuit of Wyat C. Coyle, a half-breed Choctaw, who was the ringleader of this marauding party, for crimes committed elsewhere. The marshal took the trail left by the Osages, and pursued its serpentine course until he overtook the offenders near Jefferson city, in Missouri, finding in their possession sixteen of the stolen horses. Coyle, and his accomplices, John Riley (a part Cherokee) and John Catly, (a white man,) were arrested by the marshal, but, before reaching Van Buren, Arkansas, Coyle broke custody and made his escape. The other two were taken to Van Buren and lodged in jail. I have just heard that Coyle has been again apprehended, and is now on his way to Van Buren. The Osages have succeeded in recovering all their horses but twelve. Mr. Throckmorton, the deputy marshal, notified me to meet him at Fayetteville, Arkansas, with the Indians to whom the the horses belonged. I did so, taking with me the chief Tally, his brother, and Henry Martin. It was necessary for Tally and Martin to go to Van Buren as witnesses. Tally's brother, being sick, was left at Fayetteville. When we returned, we learned that he had left town the morning after we had set out for Van Buren and had not been seen or heard of. Search was made by the citizens of the place two days, but not the least vestige of him could be found. He has not returned to the Osage country, and the probability is that he is dead. If so, I fear that it will be difficult to convince the Osages that he was not murdered by the white people.

Depredations of a similar character have been committed upon Black Dog's band, and about the same number of horses stolen. The Indians followed their trail near two hundred miles, which led in the direction of the Pawnee country. Despairing of overtaking the perpetrators, and perhaps actuated by fear lest they should come in contact with the Pawnees, whom they so much dread, they returned, and have given up all hope of regaining their property.

Many of the half-breed Osages manifest a disposition to cultivate the soil for a livelihood, and no doubt would have made greater advancements in the arts of civilization had it not been for the maltreatment they received from their full-blood relatives, who often kill and eat their hogs and cattle, and frequent their houses solely for the purpose of being fed. In default of being invited to eat, they unceremoniously take it wherever they can find it. They consume almost everything raised by the half-breeds, and consider it their prerogative to do so. In addition to all this, when their annuity goods are distributed, the half-breeds are turned off without anything. At present, I am unable to suggest any plan by which the government could throw around the property of this class the protection they ask.

The Osages claim from the government a balance of cows, oxen, hogs, wagons, ploughs, &c., stipulated to be paid to them by the 4th and 5th articles of the treaty of the 11th January, 1839. There is

nothing in the office to show how much, if any, of the above articles are due them. Whatever balance may be due them, I would respectfully suggest to the department the propriety of paying that balance in money. Such articles do them but little good—the cattle and hogs they would immediately kill and eat; the ploughs they would carry to the State and barter for whiskey, as they have heretofore done.

Several bands of the Osages have already started on their winter hunt; the other will leave in a few days. Many inquiries have been made of me relative to their annuity goods. They were anxious to receive them before leaving, provided the goods are to be sent out this year. I could give them no information upon this subject, not having received any myself. I reiterate the opinion heretofore expressed, that it would be better for the Osages to receive their whole annuity in money. I have but little doubt that the mass of the Indians would be better satisfied.

The Osage manual-labor school, under the supervision of the Rev. Father Schoenmaker, is in a flourishing condition. All who are connected with the management of this school deserve great credit for their untiring efforts to improve the condition of the Osages. This school, as well as the whole Osage people, have sustained an irreparable loss by the death of the Rev. Father Bax, which took place in August last. The weather was never two inclement for him to visit the most remote part of the nation to administer medicine to a sick Osage, or to offi ate in his priestly office. For further information in regard to this school, I beg leave to refer you to the accompanying report of the Superintendent.

The persons in the employment of the government, within this agency, have all been attentive to their various avocations.

It is gratifying, in conclusion, to state that there has not arisen, within this agency, any serious difficulty between the whites and Indians, or between any of the tribes under my charge.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

W. J. J. MORROW,
U. S. Indian Agent.

Col. John Drennen,
Supt. Indian Affairs, Van Buren, Ark.

No. 39.

Osage Manual-Labor School,
September 15, 1852.

Dear Sir: In accordance with the regulations of the Indian department, I submit, for your consideration, the following report of the Osage schools:

Both schools, male and female department, are situated on an elevated and healthy locality. During the first four years, general and good health prevailed among our pupils; a day had scarcely been lost of study-hours in the long term of upwards of four years—our pupils having made considerable progress in learning during said time.

The Osages themselves, of whom many had heretofore opposed the education of their children, began all to praise their great-grandfather for having sent teachers among them whose only solicitude it is to instruct children and to afford comfort and advice to the parents. Whilst exercising the young Osages in reading, in spelling, grammar, arithmetic, and geography, we learned that the majority possessed a happy memory, which enables them to learn almost all their lessons by heart, and to write them on paper or slates without the usual grammatical faults of other children. Their great mental improvements induced us to make, occasionally, a display of the English language at our monthly examinations. Speeches, delivered on these occasions, soon awakened the attention of the wandering Indian. The school having thereby attained esteem, our pupils increased in proportion to the number of fifty-seven boys and thirty-two girls. Among the scholars who, within the first three years, entered our schools, a few had almost reached manhood. These, after a brief education, settled in life, and bear already the fruit of small and happy families. Attachment and affection to our schools made them select lands, for cultivation, in the vicinity of our mission, whence we continued to direct them as parents would do their own children. But while we rejoice at so happy a change effected within a few years, we regret that the soil on which our establishments have been located is, perhaps, the worst soil in the Osage country, which tends to discourage the energy of our young beginners; besides, they meet with other obstacles, which it is not in my province to mention, but which prevent a more extensive raising of stock, otherwise the most profitable in this part of the country.

The great number of children who entered our schools between the middle of 1851 and the beginning of 1852, and the still greater number of children whom the Osage parents had prepared and intended to place under our tuition, obliged us to make the necessary preparations and to incur considerable expenses for the enlarging of our houses. Towards the middle of March, 1852, the measles, followed by the typhoid fever, broke out in the Osage villages. The mortality that followed was great; no less than 1,000 children or youths died within a few weeks. At this time I myself laid dangerously sick at Fort Scott, under the care of the wise and kind Doctor Barness. On my return to the mission, in the beginning of April, I found no less than 40 of our school-boys dangerously sick. As the alarm spread, some of these children were carried home to their parents or relations, of whom seven died; besides, four died of those who staid at school. The same disease fell also to the lot of the female department. Of the thirty-two girls then at our mission, twenty-five female children took the measles. By this time the parents had taken other resolutions, and prudently concluded to leave their daughters at school. Thanks to Providence, the weather being milder, only one girl died, who had previously a tendency to consumption. Next to the measles and typhoid fever, followed the whooping-cough. From what I have said it will be easy to conclude that these diseases caused the loss of more than one month of study-hours, the regularity of classes being broken, so necessary for the steady progress of a school. Whereas our expenses increased whilst

providing for the safety of these children during sickness and convalescence. Whilst we sustained these trials, the Rev. J. B. Bax, the most precious member of our community, and who was universally loved throughout the nation, sunk under the great exertions, and died from weakness on the 5th of August.

As soon as the children recovered from sickness, we resumed the regularity of classes; for we feared that a large number would have left our schools. The eight ladies attached to the female department have succeeded in keeping all the pupils together without scattering abroad. As to the male department, we used all our energy for keeping the children under discipline by teaching again, orderly, all the branches of common education. To encourage and console our Osages after the great loss they had sustained, we undertook a journey of eight days, and visited, in company of our Right Rev. Bishop Miege, the different villages. Although we were kindly received, and obtained from all the promise of sending their children to school—even to a larger number than attended at it before the destructive diseases—yet the former number has not been filled up, and we fear that the many deaths will not suffer the parents to evacuate their villages of those darlings upon whom all their uncultivated affection is fixed. We are amply provided to give this school the desired prosperity; the children are ordinarily instructed by three Catholic priests and one competent teacher; besides, six lay-brothers are attached to the Osage school, who kindly lead the young Osage into the knowledge of agriculture and domestic economy.

JOHN SCHOENMAKER,
Principal of the Osage M. L. School.

W. J. J. Morrow,
Indian Agent.

No. 40.

Cherokee Agency,
September 30, 1852.

Sir: In accordance with the regulations of the department, I have the honor to make the following brief report:

The past year has been one full of interest to the Cherokees, they having received a large amount of money from the United States government, which has given quite an impetus to trade, both in the nation and on the western frontier. The crops this season present quite a contrast to those of last year; the present yield of corn, wheat, and oats being larger than it has been for the last ten or fifteen years. This vast increase is to be attributed, in part, to an increased spirit of industry and energy on the part of the Cherokees, aided by a season remarkably favorable to those who have tilled their lands. The general health of the nation has been greatly affected by the unusually wet spring and summer, which has engendered various diseases, some of which have proved fatal. During the winter, that dreadful scourge of the Indian—the small-pox—has committed its ravages in various parts of the nation. The Cherokees are beginning to more fully understand

and appreciate the form of government, (a report of which I made in my last.) This change has, in part, been brought about by the happy effect of education, aided by a great temperance reform throughout various portions of the nation. Within the last two months, a Division of the Sons of Temperance has been established in their capital, amongst whose members are to found some of the most influential men of the nati n. This, together with several temperance societies, composed of many valuable citizens, has produced many happy changes in the morals of the Cherokees. Within the last few weeks a celebration of the Sons of Temperance took place at Tahlequah; addresses were delivered by various members, both in the Cherokee and English languages. During the ceremony the ladies of the nation (of whom there were several hundred present) presented to the Division an ele gantly bound Bible; and, from the zeal and interest exhibited by all the wives and daughters of the nation, it cannot fail of producing happiness and prosperity among them.

The trade of spirituous liquors is still carried on to a great extent, although the Cherokee laws against it are very stringent, and the sheriffs and other officers (many of them) are untiring in their zeal to check this nefarious traffic.

The subject of education is rapidly gaining the attention of the Cherokees; the number of uneducated children having greatly diminished during the past year, owing to the various schools and institutions of learning throughout the nation. At the recent examination of the male and female seminaries, a vast improvement, not only in letters, but also in morals, was to be observed among the students, and too much praise cannot be awarded to the various officers in charge of the institutions.

A matter of much importance is now before the Cherokees—that of selling their neutral land; it being valuable for its mineral purposes, and useless to them as such. This land borders on Missouri, and has very few Cherokee families upon it. Those would return to the nation proper very readily, where there is vacant land sufficient for the use of the Cherokees for years to come. They have instructed a delegation to treat with the United States to purchase it; and, unless the United States government receive it, I am fearful that the Cherokee government cannot sustain itself. The money is very much needed by the nation to liquidate the large debt by which it is encumbered, as well as to defray the expenses of the government. The last council passed an act to build a jail, which will create an additional and very necessary expense.

It is gratifying to note the friendly intercourse which exists between the Cherokees and the frontier States, as well as the various tribes ot Indians by which they are surrounded. This is a matter of which they are justly proud, being a strong evidence of their good standing as a nation. It is very galling to their pride to have a military force among them for the alleged purpose of preserving order, such not being the case with some of the adjoining tribes; and I think the garrison at Fort Gibson a very useless and unnecessary expense to the United States government; for, in case of emergency, (which I hardly think will ever happen,) aid could easily be obtained from the headquarters

of the department at Fort Smith, which I think is a more suitable point for the concentration of the military force on this frontier. The military reserve of Fort Gibson embraces the most valuable portion of the Cherokee country, being at the head of navigation of the Arkansas river, and the only good steamboat landing on Grand river; and hence of the greatest possible advantage to the Cherokees. I would respectfully call the attention of the proper authorities to this matter.

From a late census of the Cherokees, taken by a committee of the nation, in conjunction with myself, a visible increase is discernible in the population, especially among the half-breeds. The returns show the number of inhabitants to be *seventeen thousand five hundred and thirty*. From the short time allowed to take the census, I am not prepared to make a statistical report of their condition, &c.

I respectfully refer you to the accompanying reports for the state of education and morals in the nation.

Yours, respectfully,

GEORGE BUTLER, *Cherokee Agent.*

Col. John Drennen.

No. 41.

Flint District, *July* 27, 1852.

Sir: I take the liberty of reporting to you the state of the Sallisaw mission, under my control. On this mission I have an interpreter, W. Cury, and native helper, with some fifteen societies, which we meet every three weeks, preaching every day while out on our circuit.

The number reported last year was some 506. By strict administration of discipline, this number was much reduced at the commencement of this conference year, as I resolved to have none but such as were faithful in the church. The result of this has been to stir up the members to Christian duty, and thus, by purging the church, expecting the church to prosper. Our meetings have been finely attended, notwithstanding the hindrances we met with in this nation; and we have had a gradual increase of membership, with an increase of piety. I have not felt, nor do not feel, discouraged in laboring among this people. We have made two additional native preachers this year, who are actively employed. Besides, our exhorters, class-leaders, &c., in every society, keep up, in our absence, a state of religious principle and feeling. Upon the whole, these full-blood Cherokees (that my circuit is mostly composed of) pay as well for the labor bestowed upon them, in religious and moral improvement, as any in this or possibly any other nation. We have just closed some fine two-days meetings, and we are looking for times of general prosperity.

Very respectfully, your sincere friend,

E. B. DUNCAN, *Missionary M. E. C. S.*

George Butler, Esq.

P. S.—I think it advisable that the missionary of the Methodist church in this nation should report to you annually; and, if you think

so, so as to have something more definite and more tangible from our branch of the church, by requesting it it would no doubt be complied with.

Yours, E. B. D.

No. 42.

Sir: Please find herein transmitted a synopsis of the report of the missions in the Cherokee nation under the care of the Methodist Episcopal church south.

Those missions do not consist of local stations; but each includes a series of appointments, supplied, according to the economy of the church, monthly or oftener, by the missionary travelling throughout the extent of the field assigned him by the authorities of the church.

Mission	Missionaries		Indian members		Whites		Colored
Delaware Mission	2	missionaries,	271	Indian members,	14	whites,	13 colored.
Saline and Tahlequah Mission	3	"	413	"	34	"	141 "
Cana Mission	2	"	385 inclusive				
Salisa Mission	2	"	506	Indian Members.			
Canadian Mission	1	"	70	"	2	"	2
Big Bend and Verdigris Miss.	1	"	34	"			
	11	"	1,679	"	50	"	156—1,885

Of the above missionaries *five* are native men. There are also about twelve native licensed preachers, (local;) also seven Sabbath schools, with about one hundred and forty scholars.

Note.—These statistics are taken from the report of the missions as presented to the conference at its last session.

For the support of these missions, the present year, the board appropriates $3,210.

D. B. CUMMING, *P. E.*

W. A. Duncan,
Secretary Mis. Society Indian Mis. Conference.

No. 43.

Cherokee Female Seminary,
August 5, 1852.

Dear Sir: In compliance with your request of July 22, I forward to you the following report of the Cherokee Female Seminary.

The last session of five months, which is now closed, opened with fifty pupils, who continued through the session, with the exception of four or five, who were obliged to leave on account of sickness.

Besides the primary English branches, history, botany, algebra, and Latin have been taught. Much attention has also been given to vocal music. Commendable progress has been made in all the different branches taught, and a steady advance has been observable in the minds and morals of the pupils.

The government is very similar to that practised in like institutions in the northern and eastern States. But little restraint over the pupils has been necessary to preserve good order.

There is evidently an increasing interest in the cause of education among the people.

Submitting this, I am, sir, very respectfully, yours,

ELIZA G. PALMER.

Mr. Butler, *Cherokee Agent.*

No. 44.

Baptist Mission, C. N.,
August 13, 1852.

Dear Sir: Yours of July 29 was duly received. The following is a report of our mission at the present time:

Cherokee station: Rev. E. Jones and W. P. Upham. Delaware Town: John Wickliffe, and Oganaya, native preacher. Dsiyohee: Dsulasky, native preacher. Taquohee: Tanneole, native preacher. Flint: Lewis Downing, native preacher; D. M. Foreman, native preacher. Five stations, seven out-stations, two missionaries, and two female assistants, six native assistants.

Our printing operations are suspended. During the last year one hundred and fifty-eight were added to the churches by baptism. The number of church members is about twelve hundred, who are generally making good advances in intelligence and piety. A volume, containing Romans, the two Corinthians, several other epistles, and Revelations, has lately been put in circulation, and is exerting a good influence.

Yours, respectfully,

W. P. UPHAM.

G. Butler, Esq.

No. 45.

Park Hill, *August* 16, 1852.

Dear Sir: Public meetings, company, and pressure of business have prevented my replying at an earlier date to your letter of July 25.

You ask a report of the churches that I have under my charge. If I confine myself simply to that topic, I have but one church under my charge—that at this place. But I presume you would be glad to have a few words of information respecting the several mission stations in this nation under the direction of the American Board of Commissioners for Foreign Missions.

The number of stations occupied by the board is the same as last year—five, viz: Dwight, Fairfield, Park Hill, Honey Creek, and Lee's Creek.

At Honey Creek the board only employ a native as preacher of the gospel and pastor of a church.

The number of members in the several churches, according to the latest reports, is as follows:

At Dwight, 50; at Fairfield, 74; at Park Hill, 52; at Honey Creek, 51; at Lee's Creek, 7. Total 234.

The church at Lee's creek was organized only a few weeks since. The reports from some of the others are not very recent. Probably the number of members at Fairfield has somewhat diminished since the last report.

The persons now in the employment of the board at the several stations are—

At Dwight.—Rev. Worcester Willey, Mr. Jacob Hitchcock, Mrs. Hitchcock, Miss J. S. Hitchcock; and Miss J. E. Swain, teacher.

At Fairfield.—Mr. David Palmer and Mrs. Palmer; and Miss Esther Smith, teacher.

At Park Hill.—S. A. Worcester and Mrs. Worcester; and Miss S. W. Hall, teacher.

At Honey Creek.—Rev. John Huss, native preacher.

At Lee's Creek.—Rev. Timothy E. Ranney and Mrs. Ranney; and Miss Julia F. Stone, teacher.

Mr. and Mrs. Palmer are only occupying the station at Fairfield temporarily, until an expected missionary shall arrive.

At Park Hill, Rev. Stephen Foreman is employed a portion of the time in translating into the Cherokee language, and Mr. Edwin Archer in printing.

I regret that I have not kept memoranda of the most recent information I have received respecting the schools. A school is sustained at each station except Honey Creek. Miss Swain, at Dwight, Miss Hall, at this station, and Miss Stone, at Lee's Creek, have all arrived within the year. The school at this station, since it was resumed, has averaged, I think, upwards of thirty scholars. The others have been respectable as to numbers, but I cannot give particulars. Neither of the schools is at present a boarding-school.

Our press at this station has been idle much of the year, as we have not been able to complete any new translation, and have on hand a present supply of such as we have already published.

We have, however, printed in Cherokee and English, the Cherokee Almanac for 1852—36 pages, 1,000 copies; and in the Muskokee or Creek language, the Muskokee Hymn Book—144 pages, 1,000 copies.

I remain, very respectfully, yours,

S. A. WORCESTER.

George Butler, Esq.,
Cherokee Agent.

No. 46.

August 18, 1852.

Dear Sir: Agreeably to your request, I hereby furnish you a short sketch of the Cherokee Bible Society.

The present Bible Society was formed at Tahlequah October 23,

1841. Its object, as declared by the 2d article of the constitution, is "to disseminate the Sacred Scriptures in the English and Cherokee languages among the people of the Cherokee nation; and all funds collected by the Society are to be expended for that object." It is free from all sectarianism, and designed to unite Christians of all denominations in the good work of circulating the Bible. The first few years after the Society was organized, but little was accomplished, because but few individuals took an interest in promoting its object. Subsequently, the Society gained ground, and has been attended with more or less success up to the present time.

The whole amount of money collected and expended by the Society since its commencement to its last annual meeting, in October, 1851, is about thirteen hundred dollars. The whole number of books purchased during the same time is about three thousand. These have been distributed in all parts of the nation by persons to whom they have been assigned. It is the aim of the Society to make its influence felt as widely as possible.

The Scriptures purchased by the Society, and put into circulation, are the following, viz: The Gospel of Mathew, Luke, and John, the Acts of the Apostles, the Epistle to Timothy, the Epistle of James, the Epistles of Peter, the Epistles of John, and a part of the Revelation of John. There are portions, also, of the Old Testament circulated, viz: of Genesis, Exodus, Psalms, Proverbs, and Isaiah. These are all translated into the Cherokee language.

The Society have also on hand a quantity of English Bibles and Testaments, furnished them by the American Bible Society for distribution. The Society, not having funds enough to purchase English Bibles, have depended on the American Bible Society for supplies, which have been furnished gratuitously.

The officers of the Society are a president and eight vice presidents, a secretary and treasurer, and an executive committee. The committee is composed of five persons, including the secretary and treasurer.

The Society meets annually at Tahlequah on the third Wednesday in October.

STEPHEN FOREMAN,
Secretary Cherokee Bible Society.

George Butler, Esq.,
Cherokee Agent.

No. 47.

Tahlequah, Cherokee Nation,
August 23, 1852.

Dear Sir: I proceed, in accordance to your request, to furnish you a brief statement respecting the public schools in the nation. As you did not specify any particular information you desired, in relation to the schools, I propose first to give the general features upon which they are conducted by law.

There are twenty-one common schools established, which are supported by the school fund received from the government of the United States annually. The pay of teachers is fixed by law at $333 33 for ten months' teaching, consisting of two sessions of five months each, with a vacation of one month intervening between the sessions. The superintendent of public schools is also paid $300 per annum out of the annual school fund, which, together with the purchase of books, about exhausts the amount received annually, which is $7,500.

There are no schools established for the exclusive benefit of the orphans, or what might be termed orphans' schools; but they are sent to the common schools, and are supported out of the orphans' fund; that is, their board and clothing are furnished them at the rate of $30 per annum to each orphan. In order to distribute the funds equally to the nation, the law provides that six orphans be placed at each school, taken from the immediate neighborhood of the school, of those in the most indigent circumstances. Each school having a complement, makes 126 orphans provided for out of their fund. Three directors are appointed to each school, whose duty it is to place the orphans in respectable families convenient to the school, and to see that they are comfortably provided for, and to overlook the general interests of the schools. The orphans are allowed the same privilege to enter the seminaries with other children, who are also provided for in like manner at these as at the common schools. We have now several orphans entered in the seminaries. Thus the cost of the support of orphans considerably exceeds the amount received annually, which is $2,500; the excess is supplied from the surplus orphans' fund in the treasury.

The most of the school-houses are well built of hewed logs—large and commodious, with plenty of glass lights; they are furnished with stone chimneys or stoves. There are but one frame and one brick building. All these have been built by the people, and furnished with all the accommodations free of the public charge.

The common schools have been in successful operation during the past year. I feel gratified to state that an increase of interest is manifest throughout the whole nation in the cause of education.

Parents who, a few years ago, felt little or no interest in the education of their children, are now fully alive to the subject. The desire of all now seems to be, that their children may also acquire knowledge—to rise from ignorance to intelligence, from obscurity to distinction. The cause of the increasing interest manifested in education is very obviously traced to the influence of the seminaries, which have now been in successful operation over a year, at which institutions fifty scholars are annually received from the common schools, having already entered its second scholastic year with one hundred students.

The progress made of learning in so short a time at these institutions has fully met, or even exceeded, the anticipations of the public. It has kindled a flame in the bosom of every parent who has witnessed the operations of these institutions that will never expire, but will continue to burn until every child shall be brought under the influence of education; when every child shall learn to read, as well as lisp, the name of mother; when every man shall be brought up qualified for any business in life, whether civil or political. I have unnecessarily

digressed from the main object, where I merely proposed to give facts, and not opinions. But I might add here, with propriety, that the seminaries are free institutions. Students are entered for four years, free of charge for board and tuition. Why not every child grow up learned and intelligent with such institutions?

The following table of statistics will show the condition of the common schools. The aggregate number I give is the highest number which have attended school during the past year. (Our scholastic year closes the last of July.) Many of these were received into the seminaries last March. The orphans are also included in the aggregate. The number stated under the head of spelling and reading are confined to those studies alone; for all the scholars in every school are, together with their other studies, engaged in spelling and reading. The reading books are of different kinds and grades. Many of them are reading history, though I have not given their number. It would afford me great pleasure to have been able to give a more minute and detailed account respecting the condition of the public schools; but I hope my sickness will be sufficient apology for any lack of information which may be wanted or desired.

Statistics.

Aggregate No. scholars	1,100	A-B-C-darians	149
Males	677	Reading and spelling, exclusive	435
Females	423	Primary geography	149
Total No. of orphans	114	Geography and atlas	163
Males	75	Oral arithmetic	272
Females	39	Written arithmetic	192
		English grammar	225
		Writing	354

Respectfully submitted:

Your most obedient servant,

JAMES M. PAYNE,
Superintendent Public Schools.

George Butler, Esq.,
Cherokee Agent.

No. 48.

Male Seminary, near Tahlequah, C. N.,
September 6, 1852.

Sir: This seminary was opened on the 6th of May, 1851. Twenty-five boarding pupils, (the number fixed by law for annual admission,) with two day scholars, were then admitted to complete a course of

study of four years. On the 14th February, 1852, twenty-five additional boarding pupils were received.

The following studies have been pursued with a success equal to that of the higher type of academies in the States: Geography, history, arithmetic, algebra, English grammar, composition, elocution, the French, Latin, and Greek languages.

Yours, respectfully,
T. B. VAN HORNE,
Principal.

GEORGE BUTLER, Esq.,
Cherokee Agent.

No. 49.

MALE SEMINARY, C. N.,
September 19, 1852.

SIR: In compliance with your request, I furnish you below with a few facts relative to the Cherokee Male Seminary.

It was the intention of the Board of Directors that the school should commence about the first of October, 1850, and teachers were engaged accordingly; but, owing to the unfinished state of the buildings, and the difficulty of getting the necessary furniture, the commencement was delayed many months. Finally, on the 6th of May last, the public exercises of opening took place. These were of exceeding interest, and were attended by a large concourse of people.

The term closed on the 6th of August, having continued only thirteen weeks, contrary to the letter of the law, which requires each term to be twenty weeks in length. The unseasonableness of commencement and the inexpediency and danger of protracting the term through the hot and unhealthy months, were the causes of the abridgment. Of course, as this was the first session of a new institution—and a short one at that—we could hardly expect to do more than get a fair start. However, such a spirit has been manifested, and such progress made on the part of the pupils. as gives the teachers, and all acquainted with the facts, much gratification and ground for encouragement.

Twenty-five regular boarding pupils were admitted according to the law, and two or three day-scholars have been in attendance most of the term. These have applied themselves with exemplary diligence and faithfulness to their studies; and all, even the lowest, were found, on examination of the instructors' records, to have maintained through the term a standing of more than medium scholarship. To awaken the faculty of thought, and excite a habit of independent investigation, and to arouse an intellectual enthusiasm, has been, and will continue to be, the especial effort of the instructors; and the peculiar nature of the Indian, as well as the defects in elementary instruction among the Cherokees, has made such an effort the more imperatively necessary. To do this for minds that have grown old in stupidity or dissipation, is always a hard task; but I am of opinion that no company of young men of any race would prove, under similar circumstances, more susceptible of

intellectual excitement than these have done. Most, to be sure, more properly belong to the white race; though a few are entirely or chiefly Indian, and in all traces of Indian blood may be discovered. Some of our best scholars are those most thoroughly Indian. In age they are from fourteen to twenty-one—sixteen predominating.

A "good examination" in reading, spelling, geography, arithmetic, and grammar, was the legal requisite of admission; though, to fill up the number allowed, it was found necessary to give the word "good" considerable latitude. At the close of the term, however, the first class had nearly completed Greenleaf's National Arithmetic, Davies' Algebra, (though some knew not so much as the meaning of algebra before,) Green's Analysis of the English Language, and could read well in Latin. One student of Greek made excellent progress, and a small class in French (extra) did very well. The second class, though moving much slower, seemed to have acquired a thorough insight into the rudiments of geography, arithmetic, and grammar, reading, and spelling from McEllicott's Analytical Manual; composition and elocution were attended to by all, and good progress made, particularly in reading. The greatest desideratum still is a more thorough awakening of a scholarly enthusiasm.

Lessons in instrumental music on the violin, flute, and clarionet were given to some fifteen students by a skilful teacher, and the music of his pupils at the public examination was highly commended.

The students have organized a literary society, styled the Sequoyan Institute, (from the celebrated inventor of the Cherokee alphabet, George Guess, whose Indian name was Sequoya,) in which weekly debates are held, with other literary exercises. They have made provision, by a tax and initiation fee, for a Society library, to be under their own control.

Globes representing the earth and heavens, Bliss's outline maps, Dr. Cutter's physiological charts, and several large maps of different parts of the earth's surface, besides a good variety of reference books, are here for our use; and it is expected that a philosophical apparatus, to cost $1,000, will ere long be added. The institution is also provided with a library, consisting of religious, historical, biographical, scientific, and literary works, furnished mostly by the benevolence of publishers, and other friends of the seminary. It is still small, but we hope further donations will be made.

A sermon is usually preached to the students every Sabbath, and an hour is spent besides in the study of the Holy Scriptures.

On the whole, the present prospects of the seminary seem to be eminently encouraging.

Yours, very respectfully,

O. L. WOODFORD, *Assistant Instructor.*

To George Butler, Esq.,
United States Agent for Cherokees.

New Spring Place, C. N., *September* 29, 1852.

Dear Sir: Your letter arrived to hand on the 20th ultimo, and, according to your request, I cheerfully submit the following, hoping it may arrive to your hands in due time to suit your purposes:

The total number of souls under our care at this station, called *New Spring Place*, is about 75. This is a small increase over other years. In connexion with this station is a day-school, open to the neighborhood to send their children from home. To some extent this privilege is made of avail by the neighbors. Most of them live rather far to send from home; consequently there is only a limited attendance. The average attendance is about ten to twelve scholars per day. It is our conviction that gospel institutions are steadily gaining ground, and civilization is slowly progressing among the lower classes of the people around us.

Permit me to relieve you from an erroneous impression you seem to have in directing your letter *Baptist Mission*. This station is not in connexion with that denomination. Our denomination styles itself *United Brethren*, or, more commonly, are called *Moravians*, and we are here directed by a Board of Missions, located in Salem, Forsythe county, North Carolina. This station is located on the military road to Baities prairie, at the forks of Sprink creek, thirty-five and a half miles from Fort Gibson.

With sentiments of respect, I am your servant,

GILBERT BISHOP.

Mr. George Butler.

No. 50.

Choctaw Agency, *September* 6, 1852.

Sir: In looking over the events which have transpired in the Choctaw nation since my last annual report, I feel that we have abundant reason for feelings of gratitude to the Giver of all Good that the Choctaws have neither been wasted by pestilence nor famine, nor by the more slow, but not less certain, destructive influences of vice. Every effort has been made, both by the officers of the nation and the missionaries of the several denominations of Christians who are laboring amongst this people, to elevate them, morally as well as in other respects.

Fears were entertained the past spring that some of the Choctaws would suffer for bread, owing to the great scarcity of corn, occasioned by the excessive drought of the previous summer. I am, however, happy to state that, by the assistance of the licensed traders in the country, who purchased and shipped a considerable quantity of corn and flour into the nation for the people, and the generous disposition of all who had any corn to spare, the season of scarcity has been passed without much, if any, actual suffering. The anticipated scarcity also caused a considerable number of the people to sow wheat and oats, and also to plant a considerable quantity of Irish potatoes and garden vegetables, which would come into use before the season for corn to mature. Crops of corn were also planted much earlier than usual, and every effort was made that the present crop should be abundant. In this they have not been disappointed, as their efforts have been

aided by an excellent season; and it is now apparent that a very abundant crop will be made in all the Choctaw country.

In June and July last I was called by my duties to be considerably about in the country, and was much gratified to see evidences of improvement, both in regard to the comforts of living, and in respect to the cultivation of their lands. I observed particularly that their corn was planted at a proper distance apart, and so thinned out as not to leave too many stalks in a hill. Maj. Thomas Wall, and Thomson McKenney, U. S. interpreter, have erected a good grist-mill on James's Fork, one of the tributaries of the Potean, in this district, about ten miles from this place, on the main road leading from Fort Smith to Fort Towson. As this mill has a good bolt, the Choctaws are encouraged to raise wheat, and, from what I hear, I am induced to believe that, in a few years, the people will raise a sufficiency of wheat to make flour to supply the ordinary wants of the country in that line. Some little attention is beginning to be paid to the culture of cotton in Moosholatubbee district, and, from the experiments already made, the people are satisfied that it can be raised to advantage here as well as on Red river. The largest planter in the Choctaw country is Capt. Robert M. Jones, who has some four plantations on Red river, and last year raised some seven hundred bales of cotton; besides him, there are other large planters in that part of the country, amongst whom may be mentioned Maj. Pitman Colbert and Jackson Kemp. I regret that I am not in possession of any correct statistical information to lay before you for your enlightenment; but a correct estimate might be hereafter made, in regard to the progress of the Choctaws in agriculture, &c., by comparing future years with the present.

The Choctaws also feel encouraged to raise more cattle by the increased demand from abroad. Some years ago there was scarcely any demand for cattle, at any price, and when a purchaser was found, the market price was so low that it seemed like giving them away. This was exceedingly discouraging, and led to neglect of the great facilities for raising cattle afforded by the wide and inexhaustible range.

I may mention, as another evidence of the improvement of the Choctaws, that there is much less intemperance than in years past. This is very manifest in large assemblies of the people, such as at the time of annuity. I scarcely saw a drunken man during the entire annuity payment last winter, and instead of the song of the drunkard, which used to be common on such occasions, might be heard, at many of the camps, songs of praise to God.

The schools continue to be well sustained, and are the pride of the entire Choctaw people. Reports have been received from the superintendents of all the schools in the nation supported by public funds appropriated by the Choctaws, with the exception of Spencer Academy, Wheelock Female Seminary, and Norwalk School, and I-ya-nubbee Female Seminary. In consequence of not having received reports from these schools, I delayed reporting to you as long as I possibly could and be in time for the requirements of the department. The reports which I have received are forwarded herewith, and if I receive reports from the other schools in time to be of any use, I will also forward them.

I would remark in regard to the schools from which no reports have, as yet, been received, that I had the pleasure of visiting them all in June last, with the exception of Norwalk. Owing to the change of teachers and the leaving of some of the persons employed, the school at I-ya-nubbee closed on the 17th of June, some three weeks before the usual time. I was present on that day at the examination. The scholars were mostly young, and by no means as far advanced as at the other similar schools which I visited. I am not able to say what the girls had learned in the way of needle-work, housewifery, &c., as I saw no samples of their work in that line.

The school at Wheelock is, in my judgment, one of the best I ever visited; the scholars are well advanced, considering their age, and are, in the fullest sense of the term, receiving a thorough education. It so happened that I was at this school on Saturday, and though the ordinary school exercises are not usually attended to on that day, yet the teachers called the scholars together and examined them on their several studies, and, in justice to my own feelings, I must say that I never visited a school with more pleasure or with a more thorough conviction of the efficiency of the teachers in the general management of the scholars. I was shown, also, many specimens of their work, both plain and fancy. I think the school a model of the kind, and it must exert an extended, healthful influence on the Choctaw people.

Spencer Academy is the largest institution of learning in the nation, having over one hundred students in attendance, all boarded, clad, and taught at the expense of the institution. Great efforts are made by the very worthy superintendent and his assistants for the mental and moral training of the scholars, and, so far as I could judge, with a good degree of success. It, however, seems to me that one object for which the school was established, has, in a great measure, been lost sight of—that is manual labor.

I deem it unnecessary to make any special remarks in relation to the other schools from which reports have been received, as they contain more definite information than I could be expected to give.

About three hundred Choctaws have been emigrated from the States of Mississippi and Louisiana, within the present year, to this country—principally from the latter State. It is to be hoped that this business will be brought to a close at no distant day.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

WILLIAM WILSON,
Choctaw Agent.

Col. John Drennen,
Supt. Indian Affairs, Van Buren, Ark.

No. 51.

Wheelock, *September* 25, 1852.

Dear Sir: In compliance with instructions from the Indian department, I send you the report of the Wheelock Female School, and also of the Norwalk Male School, for the year ending July, 1852.

Wheelock School.

Whole number of pupils	45
Average attendance	44
Supported by appropriation	24
Supported by parents and friends	11
Day scholars in the neighborhood	10

Mrs. Dana had the whole instruction of the pupils in the school-room till April. From that time till the close of the school, she was assisted by Miss C. M. Bigelow, who was sent out by the prudential committee of the A. B. C. F. M. to be an assistant teacher in the school.

Miss Ker and Mrs. Copeland have had the care of the girls out of school, and instructed them in needle-work, plain and ornamental, knitting, cutting, fitting, and making garments for themselves and others.

There have been some changes in the school since the last report. The more advanced class of the last year, with the exception of one, left the school at the close of that year, and their places have been filled by new beginners. The course of study has been much the same as that of the last year, and the advancement of the several classes in their studies in no former year has been better than in the present.

To the studies mentioned in the last report have been added Goode's Book of Nature and Brewer's Guide to Science. The more advanced class has also proceeded further in arithmetic, grammar, and geography than the class that preceded them.

The Westminster's Assembly's Catechism has been continued a study in the school. A class of thirteen have thoroughly committed it to memory, with notes and the scriptural references. A more advanced class of about the same number, who attended to the Catechism the year before, have continued the study of it with Baker's Questions.

While the pupils have evinced a good understanding of the several studies to which they have attended, they particularly excelled in spelling, reading, and correct pronunciation of English. Many of the pupils also excel in penmanship, writing a neat and very legible hand. The older pupils have also been required frequently to write their thoughts in English, and some of them have exhibited specimens of composition which afford pleasing evidence of their attainments in the knowledge of the English language.

After Miss Bigelow's connexion with the school, the pupils were exercised daily in singing under her instruction. She is well acquainted with vocal music, and has a happy faculty of inspiring her pupils with a love for this important branch of a good education.

Great pains are taken by those who have the care of the girls out of school, to make them acquainted with all that pertains to a well regulated family. All who are old enough are required in regular rotation, when out of school, to devote a part of their time to the important duties of the dining-room and kitchen.

The Bible is studied in school and out, and portions of it daily committed to memory by all who can do it, and recited in the family and in the school.

The pupils have also a Missionary Society, embracing the whole school, and in which they take much interest. Half a day in each

week they are employed in making fancy needle-work and other articles for sale, the avails of which constitute a fund for missionary purposes.

The pupils have never been more docile, studious, affectionate, obedient, and never made greater proficiency in their studies, than during the last year.

Towards the close of the term Mrs. Dana's health failed, and she became so extremely ill that it was necessary, on her account, to dismiss the school before the examination, to the great grief and disappointment of the pupils.

Norwalk School.

Whole number of boys	21
Supported by appropriation	16
Supported by parents and friends	3
Day scholars from neighborhood	2

The steward and teacher have been diligent and faithful in their respective departments, and the school has prospered under their united labors. The studies were spelling, reading, writing, arithmetic, grammar, geography, natural philosophy, Westminster's Assembly's Catechism, and Bible History. The proficiency of the boys in these studies has been good, and their examination at the close of the term very satisfactory.

It affords me much pleasure to be able to say that there is, throughout the bounds of my labors, as well as in every part of the nation, a perceptible advance of improvement from year to year among the Choctaws. This is seen in their better houses, more comfortable clothing, larger fields, more ample provision for their families, increasing industry, and a deeper sense of the importance of the education of their children.

The Saturday and Sunday schools are still maintained with unabated interest, and are productive of much good.

During the year now under review several works mentioned in the last report as in a course of publication have been received. Among these is a portion of the Old Testament, including the books from Joshua to the First of Kings; also, Gallaudet's Sacred Biography, abridged, as far as through the Life of Moses; and questions on the Gospels of Mark and Luke, with brief explanations of difficult passages. Mr. Byington has also published a Choctaw Definer. These works are a valuable addition to the stock of Choctaw literature.

The light-horsemen, under the direction of the enlightened and energetic chief of the district, are active and unremitting in their exertions to destroy all ardent spirits brought into the nation. The friends of temperance are much encouraged, and large accessions have been made to the members of their Society during the past year.

The past year has also witnessed encouraging accessions to the church of Christ—forty-six having been added on a profession of their faith to the Wheelock church; and nine to the Mount Zion church, under the pastoral care of the Rev. P. Fish.

A review of the past year affords strong encouragement to go forward with our work among this people, with the full persuasion that it will not be in vain in the Lord.

I am, very respectfully, yours,

ALFRED WRIGHT.

WM. WILSON, Esq.,
U. S. Agent, Choctaw Agency.

No. 52.

NEW HOPE ACADEMY,
August 9, 1852.

DEAR SIR: It is with feelings of pleasure I lay before you the annual report of this Academy.

The session commenced the 1st of October, and closed the 7th of July. The examination, which embraced the 7th of July, was well attended; and, from various circumstances, we are led to believe that almost all in attendance expressed entire satisfaction with the proficiency the students evinced in their various studies, which includes the following: spelling, reading, writing, arithmetic, the book of commerce, geography, grammar, and philosophy. In addition to the above, we had an exhibition of what the girls understood of domestic duties. There were presented three quilts, nicely pieced and quilted; coats, pants, and shirts; all of which gave strong evidence that the girls were not only capable of receiving an education, but were actually making rapid progress in a knowledge of the sciences and domestic affairs. As opportunity presents, we intend to enlarge the means of acquiring instruction in domestic economy.

Miss Mary H. P. Talbott and Miss Elizabeth Tramell have charge of the Academy. It is due the teachers to say, that they have been diligent, have spared no means, and left untried no auxiliary, that might facilitate the advancement of the girls, and bring peace and comfort to their minds in the prosecution of the various duties. I must not omit to say, that Miss Frances Sawyers is engaged in instructing the girls in sewing, &c.; and has performed her part well, and to the satisfaction of all. The year that is past and gone has been one of deep suffering and affliction. The pneumonia and measles, through all the year, have raged throughout the school, and consequently the teachers have been embarrassed in their progress. But we are thankful that we were not so much lamed in our operations as to prevent the exercises of the examination from meeting the approbation of the chief, and friends who attended. None of the trustees were in attendance, but we had the pleasure of the presence of the agent.

In conclusion, I am happy to say, that while we have endeavored to give instruction in the sciences, we have not omitted that higher duty of religious instruction, the consequence of which is, we have had a glorious revival of religion. May God, in the wise dispensation of his

Providence, speed the diffusion of the arts, sciences, and religion among the Choctaws.

NATHANIEL M. TALBOTT.

Mr. William Wilson, *Agent*.

No. 53.

Good Water, Choctaw Nation,
June 19, 1852.

Dear Sir: I herewith send you my report of the Koonsher Female Seminary for the year ending June 17, 1852. Knowing, as I do, that you feel a deep interest in the advancement and welfare of the Choctaws, I feel confident that some other items of intelligence would not be out of place in this report.

First.—*The School.*

Number of scholars.—	Regular boaders	45
" "	Day scholars	14
	Total	59

Health.—The health of the pupils has been very good through the year, with but one exception. One of our best girls entered school unwell in October, and she continued to decline, till she was compelled to leave; in a few days after which she died "of consumption." The health of all connected with the school has also been good, excepting Mrs. Hotchkin, who has suffered extremely from "nervous headache."

The studies of the more advanced, who have been under the care of Miss Hosmer, are as follows:

	Number pursuing the studies.
Reading, spelling, and writing, arithmetic and grammar	32
Geography	29
History of the United States	27
Watts on the Mind	11
Ancient Geography	3
Ancient History	2
Wood's Botany	7
Cutter's Physiology	2
Playfair's Euclid, (through the first book.)	2
Composition	25
Bible	32

In the above studies the scholars have made good progress, and have manifested a disposition to improve, the sight of which has afforded us much delight. It would now be no very difficult work to carry most of this school through the course of study adopted at Mount Holyoke, or any other similar institution in the United States.

I have been requested by the chiefs and headmen to obtain from the north two teachers, well qualified to carry out the above object. In this matter, I would also most earnestly desire your co-operation. The standard of female education in this nation should be raised, and as the people themselves have proposed it, surely there ought not to be any insurmountable difficulty.

The primary school, under the care of Mrs. Hotchkin, has been such as all schools of that nature are, and I presume you would not wish a detailed account of their studies. Seven of the scholars were new from the "wild woods" at the commencement of the term. All in this school can now read and commit to memory, except one, and she could if she had a memory; but as it relates to books her memory is powerless.

The conduct of our scholars has been good, kind, and Christian in almost every individual. In this respect, they have acquitted themselves with honor, and deserve the esteem of their friends. Several—say twenty-two—of the largest and more advanced are very anxious to obtain an accomplished education, that they may become teachers of their own people. Would it not be well to cultivate this state of feeling, and, for this purpose, give some of the most promising a fair trial?

Painting, drawing, needle and coral-work, &c., have been attended to for a few weeks, though but little time, and none of that devoted to study, has been spent on these branches. The advancement made by our scholars in these studies is almost all attributable to the unwearied faithfulness of our teachers, who have spared no pains or time of their own for the scholars' good.

I cannot say, as has been said of one of the seminaries of the Choctaw nation, that this seminary is "the pride of the Choctaw people," but this I feel in duty bound to say of all our teachers, that they have been faithful to their trust, and God has blessed, in some little degree, their labors.

From the sale of articles made by the girls, and sold at the time of our examination, we realized, for missionary purposes, the sum of ——.

"Train up a child in the way he *should* go, and when he is old he will not depart from it."

Second.—*The Church.*

Twenty-nine persons have been added to this church during the year. This number is much less than I had the pleasure of reporting last year, yet we are truly glad to realize the presence of God's holy spirit in the building and beautifying of His people on this once Heathen land.

In this church we have more than four hundred members in regular standing. Twelve have died this year, and some of them in the triumph of Christian faith.

The Bible, as it is now read in the family morning and evening, is producing a wonderful change in the character of this people.

Daily prayer in the family is also another means that tends to promote personal and general piety and happiness. I do not know a single family among professors of religion where prayer in the family is

neglected. My knowledge in this respect is confined to the limits of the church over which I have charge.

Although the past has been a year of great scarcity, on account of the drought of last summer, yet the Bible, Tract, Missionary, and Colonization Societies have received substantial aid by the voluntary contributions of the Choctaws.

Third.—*Temperance.*

On this subject I could write much that would interest you and all other temperance men. The groggery business is getting to be a poor business in this vicinity. Those engaged in it being judges, two of them told me this summer that they could not support themselves by the traffic, and that almost all their *old customers* had quit drinking entirely, and also quit coming about where it was sold. This I knew to be true, if these persons had not acknowledged it. Many of our people here feel that it is disreputable to be seen at a groggery—that it is a blot on the character of a respectable man to trade with those who sell *poison.*

Fruits of reform are seen all around us, in the house and by the way, on the week-day and on the Sabbath. We see it in dress, in the way of living, and in dying. The drunkard has to die as well as others; but he dies an awful death.

Let the present ratio of feeling on the subject of temperance be increased for two years to come as it has in the last two years, and the great evil of intemperance among us would almost, if not quite, be exterminated.

Fourth.—*Industry.*

Industrious habits are forming. That great aversion to labor, and to labor for one's self and alone, in very many instances, is overcome. It is now more of a disgrace to be idle. An idle, lazy man is shunned, and treated more as he deserves. More wheat has been grown this year than for any three years since the "emigration," and we have had a most favorable time for harvest. The corn crops were all, or nearly all, planted in March, and the prospect for large crops never was better.

Late planting has always been one of the greatest drawbacks on the prosperity of this people as farmers.

Domestic manufacture is on the increase. Cards and looms are now more used. Last winter, at late hours of night, I heard the hum and buzz of the spinning-wheel.

The subject of education may be termed the great subject among the Choctaws. Schools! Schools! Schools! sound on the ear wherever I go. Inquiries are often made—"When can you give us a school-teacher?" "Are you not partial in your gifts?" "Why not give us a school as well as to others?" "Are not our children as needy as others? Have not we as many? Then why so partial, &c.?" "Is your board acquainted with our situation? Will you not write them to send us out a teacher?" These and similar questions are

often put to me. I could in this vicinity, and at the present time, employ two or three teachers if I could get them; and, if they could be obtained, the people would help support them.

Respectfully and truly, yours,

EBENEZER HOTCHKIN,
Superintendent of Koonsher Female Seminary.

Mr. William Wilson,
United States Agent for the Choctaws.

Pine Ridge, *August* 17, 1852.

Sir: The following is my report of the Chuahla Female Seminary, and of my missionary labors, for the year ending July, 1852.

In the seminary there have been 40 pupils—average attendance 36.
17 have attended to geography.
21 have attended to arithmetic.
9 have attended to grammar.
6 have attended to Goodrich's History of the United States.
3 have attended to Goodrich's Ecclesiastical History.
7 have attended to Biblical Geography.
14 have attended to Natural Philosophy.
19 have been through the Assembly's Cathecism, and reviewed it.
12 studied Bunyard's Infant Series. All but one can read in the Testament.
17 write.
7 have written their own composition.

In geography five have been through the United States; the other seven have been through Fowler's Elementary Geography, and are now in the Common School Geography. In arithmetic two have been through interest, and reviewed; four through fractions; seven are in reduction, and eight are in Mental Arithmetic.

Six are pretty well acquainted with the general principles of grammar; the other three are not so far advanced.

In Goodrich's History of the United States the class are more than half through, and have reviewed a part of it.

In Ecclesiastical History the class have gone to period eighth.

Ten have gone through the first and second parts of Miss Swift's Natural Philosophy.

Miss Goulding's plan has been not so much to have her pupils go over a large field as to have them thorough on what they do go over.

A Sabbath-school has been taught at Doakesville, and has numbered about fifty, including the pupils of the Seminary. The progress in this school has been good.

Out of the school three of the larger girls, for whose board and schooling no pay was received, assisted Mrs. Kingsbury in the kitchen. Three or four others, alternately, a week at a time, have assisted in the dining-room and other labors of the family.

The larger portion of the girls, when out of school, have been instructed by Miss Bennett in sewing, knitting, and other similar work. Thirteen entered the present term, and the larger portion of the whole

are young. It has required a great amount of patient, persevering effort on the part of Miss Bennett to bring these little girls forward in the use of the needle to their present stage of advancement. They have thorough instruction in all they do.

Besides making and mending their own clothes they have, the past term, with the assistance of Miss Bennett, made ten dresses for ladies in the neighborhood; and for men's wear they have made 13 coats, 7 vests, 38 pairs pantaloons, 37 shirts, 4 roundabouts, and knit upwards of 30 pairs of socks and stockings.

Less "fancy work" is done here than at some of the other schools. We think the Choctaws, in their present circumstances, need a knowledge of what will be useful rather than of what is merely for show and ornament.

The teachers, with their pupils, spend one afternoon every two weeks in sewing for persons in the neighborhood, and in the manufacture of various articles with the needle. In this way they earn from $40 to $50 a term, which is applied to some object of benevolence.

My labors as a missionary have been similar to what was mentioned in my last report. A little less than two-fifths of the Sabbaths I have preached at Doakesville, and the remainder at other places, most of them west of the Boggy, and distant from forty to forty-five miles. The attendance on preaching has generally been good.

Pine Ridge church	54	members.
Mayhew "	28	"
Bennington "	85	"

About twenty have been added to the latter church by a public profession of their faith.

The cause of benevolence has been favorably regarded in most of our congregations.

At Bennington and Mayhew liberal subscriptions have been raised for the support of neighborhood schools.

In that part of the nation where I have labored the temperance cause is firm and strong.

Industry is on the increase, but as yet it is the great want of the nation.

All of which is respectfully submitted:

E. KINGSBURY,
Superintendent Chuahalco Female Seminary.

WM. WILSON, Esq.,
U. S. Agent for Choctaws.

No. 55.

FORT COFFEE, *July* 29, 1852.

DEAR SIR: As another session of the school at this place has closed, it becomes my duty to furnish you with a statement of our passed labors and present condition; and I do this the more cheerfully, from the fact that you have manifested a deep interest for the success of this institution, as well as for all others established for the benefit of this

nation, knowing as you do that the happiness and prosperity of these people depend upon the proper training of the rising generation. We commenced the passed session on the first day of October. Mr. Wm. Jones and Dr. C. W. Brenton had been employed as teachers. They entered upon their work with interest and energy, and so continued, without intermission, until the session closed. The boys were brought in at an early period, in good health and spirits, every preparation necessary having been made for their comfort. They appeared unusually cheerful, and prosecuted their studies with success for more than five months.

We regret to state, however, that, in the month of March, it was clearly proved that some twelve of the large boys had been guilty of a high grade of improper conduct; that the honor of the academy required that they should be dismissed, which was done promptly, but with kindness. This circumstance created some unpleasant feelings for a short time. The chief, however, Col. McCurten, took a very gentlemanly course in the matter, supplied their places with boys of a smaller size, and we moved on harmoniously to the end of the session. The most of the boys that left could read and write, and had a tolerably good knowledge of geography, arithmetic, and English grammar.

The annual examination came off on the 8th inst. There was quite a goodly number of Choctaws present, with other friends of the institution, and forty-seven of the students were examined, according to their attainments, in spelling, reading, writing, geography, arithmetic, and history. And, so far as we could learn, all were satisfied that ample justice had been done by the teachers. Several of the students delivered each a short address on various topics, all very good.

I take pleasure in stating that the boys have labored faithfully on the farm during the hours appropriated for that purpose, as we have cultivated about seventy-five acres in oats and corn. This will furnish us with an abundant supply of grain for the ensuing year, and some to spare. I say this from the fact that our crop is better this year than last, and yet we sold some 300 bushels of corn, which was appropriated to the benefit of the establishment. I will add that the boys have been regularly catechised every Sabbath, in Sabbath-school, succeeded by preaching, or some other regular exercises. My own Sabbath appointments have mostly been divided between this place and the Choctaw agency, where we generally have good congregations.

We would express our gratitude to Almighty God for the preservation of the lives of all the students during another entire session, as two years have passed away since our superintendency commenced, and no death has occurred.

Hoping that additional prosperity may crown the labors of each succeeding year, and that the Fort Coffee Academy may rise in the scale of pure literature and morality, I subscribe myself your humble, but sincere friend,

JOHN HARRELL,
Superintendent Fort Coffee Academy.

Wm. Wilson,
Agent for the Choctaw Nation.

No. 56.

SPENCER ACADEMY,
September 1, 1852.

DEAR SIR: In compliance with the regulations of the Indian department, I with pleasure submit the following report of Spencer Academy for the year ending July, 1852:

The session commenced October 6, and ended July 8. The whole number of boys connected with the academy during the year was one hundred and thirty-six; (136,) eighty-eight of those were members of the institution the year before, and forty-eight entered this year for the first time. The highest number present at one time was one hundred and twenty-four. This was about the 1st of December. Agreeably to an arrangement made with the trustees, no scholars were received after the 1st of December. Thus it appears that between the 6th of October and the 1st of December—a period of about *seven weeks*—twelve boys left school not to return. All but one *ran away*, and were not sent back. Between the 1st of December and the final examination in June—a period of nearly *seven months*—only six boys left the school. Of these, five left on account of sickness; the other left by permission, for good reasons; and none ran away who did not return again in due time. During the greater part of the session the number of scholars was one hundred and twenty, (120.)

The instruction of the boys was carried on as heretofore in four distinct schools. The teachers were the Rev. H. Balentine, Rev. John Edward, Joseph Turner, and Miss F. R. Thompson. The plan of separate schools adopted three years ago seems to work very well thus far.

Spelling, reading, writing, arithmetic, geography, grammar, philosophy, history, composition, astronomy, and vocal music were taught during the session as far as the capacity of our pupils would admit. Near the close of the session the schools were very thoroughly examined in the presence of two of the trustees, Col. P. P. Pitchlyn and Mr. Stephen Cochansur, and several other gentlemen. This examination occupied *twenty solid hours*. The result was most gratifying to all concerned. The trustees declared themselves highly delighted with the evident proofs of progress exhibited by the boys.

The health of the boys was good most of the time. In the fall the whooping-cough appeared among the boys, but did not become general. Three very interesting little boys died of inflammation of the lungs in connexion with the whooping-cough. In the spring the measles broke out again. Nineteen took them. Four were very sick, but none died. Truly we had reason to be thankful.

Early in May we were favored with a visit from the venerable secretary of our Board of Missions, the Hon. Walter Lowrie. He tarried with us six days. The schools and the affairs of the mission generally were subjected to a careful examination, and I am happy to be able to state that he was much pleased with what he saw and heard. Mr. Lowrie considers the present condition of the institution healthful and promising. I presume the report of the secretary's visit is by this

time made public. No doubt a copy of it will reach the Commissioner of Indian Affairs. I deem it therefore unnecessary to add more at this time.

Accept for yourself my sincere thanks for your visit last June, and for the lively interest you manifested in the examination of the school, and allow me to express the hope that you may find it convenient to visit Spencer again during the coming session.

I am, dear sir, very truly, yours,

ALEXANDER REID.

WM. WILSON, Esq., *U. S. Agent, Choctaw Nation.*

No. 57.

ARMSTRONG ACADEMY, *July* 14, 1852.

DEAR SIR: I herewith transmit to you the report of this school for the past year.

The following persons compose the mission family, viz: Rev. R. D. Potts, Mrs. Mary E. Potts, Rev. Andrew Moffat, Mrs. E. Moffat, Miss M. R. Davis, and Miss Chenoweth. During the latter part of the session of 1851 and the commencement of the last, it was necessary for me to be in the school, in consequence of Mr. Brown, the former teacher, having left. In November the Rev. Andrew Moffat arrived, and since then the school has been under his charge, assisted by Miss M. R. Davis. The number of students is forty-seven, who are boarded and clad by the institution.

The studies pursued have been as follows:

First class. Chase's Arithmetic, as far as mensuration; Davies' Application of Geometry to the mensuration of Surfaces and Solids; Davies' Algebra through; English grammar, reading, writing, composition, and declamation.

Second class. Arithmetic, as far as mensuration; English grammar, geography, reading, writing, composition, and declamation.

Third class. Arithmetic, as far as the double rule-of-three; geography, reading, and writing.

Fourth class. Arithmetic, as far as interest; geography, reading, and writing.

Fifth class. Arithmetic, as far as compound numbers; geography, reading, and writing.

Sixth class. Arithmetic, as far as long division; geography, reading, and writing.

Primary department—

Second class. Reading History of the United States, spelling, and writing.

Third class. McGuffey's Third Reader.

Fourth class. McGuffey's Second Reader.

Fifth class. Mrs. Barbauld's Lessons, and spelling.

Sixth class. J. E. Lovel's Young Pupil's First Book, and spelling.

I reported at the close of the session, (9th inst.,) nine boys as qualified for the common business transactions of life. This I consider is

as far as the schools in the nation should go. Should a boy have some definite object which would require a further advancement, and possess the talents, application, and moral character, then he ought to be prepared for that object. As it is, there are so many children who are not able to obtain even the first rudiments of education, that those who are fitted for business should give way to others.

Could there be an agricultural school established, conducted upon the most improved system, where the best implements could be made and repaired, and boys selected from the present schools and sent there and taught farming upon scientific principles, as well as to make and repair the necessary tools, it would exert an influence upon this people that is incalculable.

As things now are it is useless to have any other tools than such as have been in use for the last thirty years; others can neither be made nor repaired here. But where are the funds to come from? The nation is not able. It can only be done by the government, or the benevolent. Our prospects are very good for a crop. I think we shall have a sufficiency of wheat, oats, corn, and vegetables for our own use; and this has been done by the students.

Our examination, which took place on the 9th instant, gave general satisfaction.

In addition to our labors here, we have endeavored to preach the Gospel to the people, and I am happy to be able to say that it has had its influence upon the heart, in turning some from sin unto holiness. About forty have been added to the church, upon their profession of faith in a risen Saviour.

The prospects for good crops among the people are very good. I think more has been planted, and it has been better worked, this year than heretofore. Upon the whole I think I can say that within the bounds of our labors there is a gradual improvement in industry, morals, and religion.

All of which is respectfully submitted by yours, truly,

RAMSAY D. POTTS,
Superintendent of A. A

Mr. WILLIAM WILSON,
Agent for the Choctaws.

No. 58.

MOUNT PLEASANT, PUSH DISTRICT, CHOCTAW NATION,
June 23, 1852.

DEAR SIR: I now sit down to write you a report of our labors for the past year; also an account of present prospects.

The health of the mission at this station has been almost uninterruptedly good during the year. True, we have not escaped *all* the ills to which life is prone, but our share of physical evil has been so very small that we cannot mention it.

The borders of our field have been very little enlarged this year. One small neighborhood has been added to our former limits. We have no

more regular preaching-places than last year. One place has been relinquished, and it has fallen into other hands. Circumstances which we could not control prevented our regular attendance. I have six regular preaching-places which I visit in rotation. There are two others where I must preach as I am able. Several calls for the Gospel have been heard during the year which we could not consistently answer.

Laborers.—We (*i. e.* Mr. Kingsbury and myself) have been occasionally assisted by the brethren of the Assembly's Board. Rev. Messrs. Reid and Edwards, from Spencer Academy, and Rev. A. M. Watson, now stationed at Boggy depot, have assisted us as they have been able, for which we are truly grateful. I have employed five elders and three other laymen, all natives, a portion of the time during the year. They have manifested a good degree of zeal and discretion, and their labors appear to have been blest. They have done much to maintain public worship on the Sabbath. Other elders have done much at home in their respective churches, but have not labored abroad.

State of the Churches.—All of our churches west of Boggy are now in a prosperous state except the Chickasaw church. Additions have been made to them all. The present number of communicants, in connexion with Mount Pleasant, Six Town, and Chickasaw churches, is one hundred and seventy-one. Mr. Kingsbury keeps the records of Mayhew and Bennington churches. Public worship is constantly maintained at all our preaching-places, as well as at Sabbath-schools and prayer-meetings. There appears to be an increase in the usual attendance on the means of grace. There is, also, we trust, an increase in knowledge and piety among our church members.

True, there are defections in some of our churches, and imperfection in all of the members; but this seems to be stamped on everything earthly, and is nothing more than is to be expected *here*, for it is found *everywhere*.

Schools.—A teacher arrived at this place in April last. Since that time a school has been in successful operation with eighteen scholars.

At Bennington a school has been sustained during most of the year, with about the same number of scholars. Saturday and Sunday-schools have been sustained at four or five different places. These schools are taught by natives in the native language. The attendance has been generally good. Most of the young people and children, and some of the older ones, have learned to read their own language at these schools. There are now very few young people living in the vicinity of these schools who have not learned to read our Choctaw books; many have learned also to write; and a few have gained a limited knowledge of arithmetic. Many of these schools have been sustained by the voluntary contributions of the people. Great good has been accomplished by them. I am of opinion that these schools have done more to elevate and enlighten the great mass of the Choctaws than the same amount of effort employed in other ways.

Knowledge and general intelligence have greatly increased within a few years among the Choctaws. There seems to be no good reason why they may not become an enlightened and happy people.

Temperance.—Much has been gained during the last year for this cause. Many neighborhoods are now almost entirely exempt from the evil. Other neighborhoods are greatly improved. There is but little drinking in the bounds of my labors anywhere. I have seen but one drunken man for many months. This evil is principally confined to the country along Red river. The chief has made most commendable efforts to banish the evil from the land, and his efforts have been seconded by all his officers and all good citizens, and a good degree of success has been the result. Were it not for this curse, the Choctaws would soon become a peaceable and quiet people; but so long as unprincipled white men bring it to the very borders of the nation, and continue to use such inducements to get the Indians to drink, we shall experience more or less difficulty with them. Sometimes, however, intemperance—like the plague or cholera—seems to break out, and carry desolation and destruction to many a household and to many a heart.

Industry.—Very commendable progress has also been made in regard to industry. This is most clearly seen where the greatest success has attended the preaching of the Gospel. Some neighborhoods have been almost entirely transformed from an indolent, ignorant, and shiftless people, to an industrious, intelligent, and thrifty population. The ground is cultivated in a better manner, and fewer crops are lost for want of labor. As two successive crops have been injured by drought, there must be considerable suffering before the next harvest. In this section of country none are suffering because they have been indolent. Extraordinary efforts have been made this season to insure success; and many of those who are now suffering will not be likely to experience the same again soon. The Choctaws are beginning to sow small grain, particularly wheat and oats. As these crops are harvested early in the season, they see the advantage of securing them—wheat for themselves, and oats for their horses and hogs.

State of Society.—Society among the Choctaws at present is in rather an unsettled state. The *old form* of government has passed away; but something of its *spirit* still *lingers*. The new government is not yet fully established in the hearts of the people. The spirit which prevailed among the people of Israel in those days, when there was no king, is but too manifest in these times. The laws are but imperfectly understood, while many entirely mistake their spirit; so that, in the efforts to execute law and maintain order, errors are often committed—sometimes by overdoing the thing, and again by coming short. These things are to be expected among a people struggling with darkness and superstition for the blessings of christianity and civilization.

There has been, however, a great improvement in the administration of the government within the last two years. The authorities are vigilant and persevering in their efforts to maintain good order; and if they were always directed by skill and judgment, glorious results would soon be recorded on the page of Choctaw history.

I see nothing why the Choctaws may not, under the fostering care of our government, become a Christian, civilized, and enlightened nation. If morality and industry keep pace with the progress of knowl-

edge, and they are kept in the quiet possession of their present territory, there seems to be nothing to hinder or prevent such a result.

With much respect, yours, truly,

C. C. COPELAND.

Col. William Wilson,
U. S. Agent, Choctaws, Choctaw Agency.

No. 59.

Chickasaw Manual Labor Academy,
August 20, 1852.

Sir: In the discharge of duty as superintendent of this institution, it now devolves upon me to submit the following annual report to the proper department:

And, first, I would acknowledge the blessings of a kind Providence, that has crowned us with mercy and goodness throughout the year.

Our school closed its session by the direction of the trustee on the 8th of July. It was prosperous during the whole time. The scholars enjoyed general good health; but one death occurred amongst them—that of a little girl (an orphan)—soon after the beginning of the session.

At the close we had a public examination, which was numerously attended, and, I believe, gave satisfaction to all present. Parents and friends seemed highly gratified with the improvement of their children. The branches examined in were spelling, reading, writing, arithmetic, English grammar, and geography; and though our school is yet in its infancy the above were all respectably represented. In addition to the above, specimens of plain needle-work were exhibited by the girls, and some of the mechanic arts by the boys, which were creditable to the youth themselves, and gratifying to their friends.

It affords me great pleasure to say that the youth under our care have generally been attentive and obedient, and evinced a disposition and capacity, both in letters and arts, inferior to none that I have known. The mechanic branches introduced are those of carpenter, (including plain cabinet-making,) wagon-maker, blacksmith, and saddler. To these some ten or twelve of our older boys have severally attended, and made good progress for the time. We consider this department very important, as essential to the prosperity of this people. Our agricultural operations have been successful. We have a promise of fully 2,000 bushels of corn from about sixty acres, besides a good crop of peas. We also had a good crop of oats, and a good supply of garden vegetables; for all of which we are truly thankful, as being far beyond that of last year.

Our improvements are, first, an extension of our farm, so as to include sixteen acres more new land put in corn, and clearing up a great deal of timber of the old.

Also, enclosing by a good fence about twenty acres around the main building, cutting out the surplus timber, and dividing it into several convenient lots, and erecting about the same and other parts of the farm twelve good substantial farm-gates.

Secondly, a very considerable amount of work done on and about the main building, which we cannot here detail, in value not less than $1,600. This building we expect to have finished by October next. A frame building adjoining, for servants, with two brick chimneys—one double, for an additional building; the present one divided into two parts. Also, an additional house (log) for the family of one of our mechanics. The two worth $400.

Thirdly, a frame school-house for boys, at a short distance from the main building, 50 feet by 22, one story high of twelve feet, divided into two rooms by a sliding partition, valued (including furniture and stoves) at $800.

A general mechanic-shop, for those that work in wood, also frame, 65 feet by 22, valued at $550; also a cistern that holds 20,000 (twenty thousand) gallons. In addition to these we have erected a mill-house 30 feet square, with a husk-frame extending across the whole width of the house, of heavy, substantial timbers, ready for the burrs, one pair of which have been running in the saw-mill. We have also put in operation a bolt for flour, so that, with some inconvenience, we can make and have made good flour. We have on hand one of Burrow's patent mills, a thirty-inch French burr, and improved water-wheel, (cast-iron,) which were paid for by the treasurer of the Missionary Society out of the missionary appropriation of 1850. They cost here about $450. What we have now done towards the grist-mill is estimated at $550, which, added to the above $450, equals $1,000. To this add the cost of the burrs in operation, equal to $175, and we have $1,175 already paid by the board towards a grist-mill. It is our intention to finish the mill in good order so soon as the council will furnish the means; but we cannot before.

We have pressed into this matter even beyond our means, influenced by two motives: first, our own necessity, that we may get flour at a less rate than from six to eight dollars per 100 pounds, which we now pay; secondly, for the encouragement of the natives to raise wheat, that they may have bread with less expense, while they have thousands of acres of excellent wheat-land lying idle. Their excuse has been valid: "It is of no use for us to raise wheat, because we have no mills to flour it." But now, with a little aid, they may not only save money, but raise enough to become a revenue. The past has been a year of heavy expenses, in consequence of the high rates paid for all eatables; and, so far as pork is concerned, I fear the next will be no better; for although there is plenty of feed, there are but very few hogs to fatten, having nearly all died from want last winter; so that we must pay as much next fall as last, viz: not less than $8 per 100 pounds.

In the horizon of the future there may be some small clouds, but we see also some bright spots spanned by the bow of promise. Upon that promise we confidently rely, and look forward with encouragement to the prospects of this institution, and through it as a means of blessing to this people.

We doubt not they will yet rise from the darkness in which many of them are enveloped, and shine out, not only in the brightness of civilization, but in the glory of christianity.

For this we are laboring, knowing that no permanent change for

good can be effected unless there be implanted in the heart that high moral sense and principle that the pure religion of the Bible alone can inspire.

I am, with respect, yours,

J. C. ROBINSON,
Superintendent.

Major Th. Holmes,
Commanding officer, Fort Washita,
and acting United States agent for the Chickasaws.

No. 60.

San Antonio, *August* 15, 1852.

Sir: In my last communication I intimated my intention of departing to visit the Indian tribes, in company with Colonel Capron, during the present month; but owing to some rumors of slight difficulties between the citizens of Fredericksburg and the Indians residing in that vicinity, I immediately despatched Colonel Capron thither, who, on his arrival at Fredericksburg, found that the rumors of the difficulties were much exaggerated, and, therefore, he found no trouble in adjusting them. I shall, however, join him in a few days at Fort Mason, from whence we will proceed in company on our projected journey.

I cannot depart, however, upon my journey without respectfully offering some few suggestions in regard to the management of the unfortunate race over whom my appointment brings me in contact.

In my former communications I have urged that the general government should take advantage of the late legislation of Texas, and secure, by purchase or otherwise, a sufficient space of territory for Indian occupancy.

Permit me to impress that the present position of Indian affairs in this State is subjecting the federal government to much animadversion. Should a speedy contract not be made with Texas, I believe that the most judicious and economical plan that the department could adopt would be to procure lands, either by purchase or lease, from private individuals, which I can do at a very trifling expense, should it meet the approbation of the department, until some definite arrangement can be made for the permanent settlement of the Indians.

Until a territory is procured for them, all attempts to control and civilize them will prove abortive. Should the department approve of my suggestions in regard to this matter, I am fully satisfied that by next spring I could have nearly all of our southern bands engaged in agricultural pursuits.

My second suggestion is, that where lands are set apart for the Indians, the agents should be required to reside among those under their supervision. With our present powers, the office of Indian agent is almost a nullity.

I have of late had frequent complaints made to me by the chiefs of the different tribes, who represent that in consequence of certain unprincipled white men, who locate themselves near the posts and sell

liquor to the Indians, they cannot govern their young men. In our present anomalous state we can do nothing to prevent this great evil. I would therefore suggest that the department should take some immediate steps to give the agents control over the Indian trade.

As an additional suggestion, I would advise that, instead of the calicoes, shawls, &c., which have been heretofore furnished as presents for Indian purposes, (which are of little practical use, and should be discontinued,) the same means expended for those articles should be appropriated for the purchase of beef and corn; for it is painful to inform you that those articles, immediately upon their receipt by the Indians, are exchanged to some traders for articles of food bearing no proportionate relation in value to the articles received.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

GEO. T. HOWARD,
Superintendent Texas Indians.

Hon. L. Lea,
Commissioner of Indian Affairs.

No. 61.

Fort Mason, *August* 12, 1852.

Dear Sir: My trip to Braunsfels in June last, on Indian service, I did not consider of sufficient importance to require a special report, and I only refer to it now as a record of my movements since I arrived in Texas as Indian agent.

I found, as you have already been verbally informed, that the report of Indian depredations in that vicinity had been much exagerated—in fact I could not satisfy myself that any had been committed. The reports originated, no doubt, from a few Delaware Indians who had come into town to trade and had had a drunken frolic.

According to an understanding, I left San Antonio on the 19th July on a tour to the Indian country, and arrived at Fredericksburg on the evening of the 21st. I found there, as at Braunsfels, that the rumored depredations by the Indians could not be traced to any reliable source; the reports originating, no doubt, from the same cause—the sale of whiskey to the few Indians who go in there to trade.

Learning that the principal chiefs of the Lipans, with a portion of their tribe, were encamped some twelve or fifteen miles from there, I sent out for them to meet me. On the 24th instant Chequeto, Chepota, and Cartre came in there with a large delegation. I explained to them the character of my mission amongst them, designed by the great chiet of the whites as a peaceful one; its object being to establish and encourage peaceful relations, as well as for the protection of their individual rights. After talking with them freely upon the subject of their continued depredations, and listening to their explanations and complaints, plans were suggested for preventing further difficulties between them and the white settlers. The only feasible one appeared to me to be for them to remove their whole tribe further into the interior, and out of the way of the settlers. I was pleased that it met with the ap-

proval of all the principal men present. I accordingly entered into an arrangement with them to move their whole tribe further back, and near Fort Mason, my object being to get them more under the control of the military at that post, as the only way to check the bad men of their tribe, which the chiefs have difficulty in doing.

After the council was over I distributed suitable presents amongst them, confining myself principally to articles of food, together with a few things particularly desired by the chiefs, which I procured from Mr. Lane, of Fredericksburg. José Maria Flores, chief of the Muscalaroes, being present, I directed him to be furnished with a few articles, of which he stood much in need.

On the 7th instant the Lipans came into my camp at this place to report their movements under the arrangements of the 24th of July. Their tribe is now located some few miles from this post, with the exception of a few young men left behind, (to secure a little corn which they had planted,) and some of the more distant bands, to whom they had despatched runners, and they were expected daily.

The principal chiefs, with most of their warriors, being present, we held a talk at some length, and from the profound attention of the whole band during the interview, and from their expressions after it broke up, I am led to believe it perfectly satisfactory. Their repeated assurances that it was the wish and intention of their tribe to maintain friendly relations with the whites, even at the expense of the sacrifice of their own men, were so solemn that I must believe them sincere.

I have turned over to them, for their immediate use, some beef and corn, and have promised them some more before my departure for the northern tribes.

Chequeto, with the other chiefs, and nearly all the warriors of his tribe, came into my camp unexpectedly yesterday morning again, much troubled at having heard, on their return to their camp the night before, of some depredations which had been committed by two of the young men they had left behind. They expressed the greatest sorrow and regret at the occurrence, particularly after the friendly and satisfactory interview of yesterday. They were the first ones to report the theft, having been apprised of it by one of their young men who came up for the purpose. They pledge themselves not only to pursue and bring in the young men, who are known, but to restore the horses. Chequeto says, that notwithstanding his age and infirmities, he will himself take ten of his best men and bring them in in a few days.

The case has been properly reported to Col. May, the commander of this post, who has consented to let them have a reasonable time to make good their promises.

This is another instance of the bad effects of allowing spirituous liquors to be sold to these Indians, and shows the importance of removing them from the temptation as far as possible. The chiefs say the theft was committed by the young men whilst under the influence of liquor.

They have orders now from the commander of this post not to allow any of their tribe to go below without a pass either from one of the Indian agents or the commanding officer of a post, and are given to understand that on any breach of this order they will be treated as en-

emies. I trust this will end, for the present, all trouble from that quarter.

The Comanches, under Joshua, Yellow Wolf, Buffalo Hump, and Tecumsie, having heard, through the officers of the post on the Conche, of the rumored attack on Capt. Marcy by a band of northern Comanches, have sent down their chief, Joshua, to have a talk. He arrived at my camp yesterday. Joshua comes recommended as a chief of great influence in his band. He does not claim to speak for the northern Comanches or those beyond the boundaries of this State, as they have little intercourse. But he claims to speak, and holds himself responsible, for the band of the Comanche tribe called Pah-na-ti-cas, or Honey-eaters, which comprises all that are located within the limits of this State. I have, therefore, received him, and treated him as entitled to this standing, and as a delegate from that band. His statements are sustained by John Conner, who is considered here as good authority. We have had a long and friendly talk, in which he has pledged himself and his band as the friends and allies of the whites. They do not wish to be implicated with the northern Comanches in any of their hostile movements. He says the first they heard of any hostilities was through the American officers. It is to prevent any misapprehension as to their true feelings and intentions that he has been sent down.

I expressed satisfaction at the trouble they had taken, and their promptness in disclaiming all connexion with any hostile movements against the whites, and the assurances of their continued friendship. I told him the great chief of the whites would fully appreciate it.

At his earnest request for me to meet them at their camp, that I might judge for myself, I have consented to do so, and expect to meet their whole tribe at their camp upon the Conche so soon as I can make arrangements to go up.

I made him and his companions some suitable presents, and he has returned—as he expressed himself through my interpreter—very much pleased at what I had said to him, and he will make it all known to the great men of his tribe.

I am making some progress in obtaining information in conformity with the circular issued from the Office of Indian Affairs of May 31.

An Indian has just come in to inform me that they have overtaken those thieves and have got the horses, and they will be brought in to this post to-morrow.

Very truly, yours,

HORACE CAPRON,
Special Indian Agent for Texas.

Maj. G. T. Howard,
Commissioner of Indian Affairs for Texas.

No. 62.

Fort Graham, Texas, *October* 8, 1852.

Sir: Having just returned from a tour into the Indian country, I embrace the earliest moment to forward my accounts for the quarter

ending September 30, and to furnish such a statement of the condition and disposition of the Indians of Texas under my charge, as, in connexion with my former reports, will fully apprise the department of the state of our Indian relations on this frontier.

Under date of 12th June last, I communicated the fact, that the Wichitas had been in the habit of visiting the frontiers of Texas in small parties, and committing occasional depredations on her citizens; and although they are, perhaps, not now strictly within the jurisdiction of Texas, I conceived it to be my duty to make an effort to arrest these practices, and establish some understanding with them, more especially as they have been parties to treaties with our government, heretofore made within the limits of this State; and, so far as I know, are not under the charge of any other officer or agent of the government.

I accordingly despatched a messenger (a chief of the Wacoes) to their villages in the Wichita mountains with some tobacco, and a talk to them upon the subject of their depredations, and a demand of such stolen property as they had in their possession. Soon afterwards, and while I was out in the Indian country, another party of this tribe robbed the train of Mr. Mackay of eight horses and mules. I thereupon procured a small escort, under command of Lieutenant Beall, of 5th infantry, and started after my messenger, intending to visit the Wichitas in person. We encountered a succession of rains and high waters, which so embarrassed and delayed us, that, after swimming several streams, we were finally stopped by Red river, within forty-five miles of the Wichita village; and, being too nearly out of provisions to await the subsidence of this stream, were compelled to return. My messenger brought back eight stolen horses, which were given up by the Wichitas, and reported that the chief of that tribe expressed the determination to put a stop to these aggressions of his people. Besides these, I recovered four government horses from other Indian tribes while on this expedition.

Lieutenant Beall, afterwards, in the month of August, while out in search of Captain Marcy and his command, (then reported to have been massacred by the Comanches,) visited the Wichita vilages, and held a talk with them. They then delivered up six more horses and mules; and, so far as I know, have committed no outrage on this frontier since the robbery of Mackay's train.

While out on this expedition I learned of the congregation of large bands of Comanches near the Wichita mountains, and in the vicinity of the Great Salt plains.

Some of these expressed themselves friendly, and sent me word by my messenger that they would be glad to see me; while several bands, including the Kioways, were reported as avowing open hostility to the whites.

Much alarm and apprehension were created on this line of frontier by the circulation of these reports, in connexion with the reported destruction of Captain Marcy and his command. In many instances settlers on the frontier abandoned their homes, and a general consternation prevailed in several neighborhoods. It soon appeared, however, that all cause of alarm was groundless. With the exception of the robbery of

government mules from the military posts at Phantom Hill and Fort Belknap, supposed to have been the work of northern Comanches, and the occasional small thefts by the Wichitas, referred to herein, the whole line of frontier within my supervision has been exempt from Indian aggressions.

The Caddoes, Ana-da-kos, and Ionis have remained on the Brazos, and have peaceably and quietly tilled their corn-fields and followed the chase, occasionally calling on me for slight aid to make out the measure of their subsistence. The efforts of these people are much embarrassed by the constant reflection that the tenure by which they hold their homes and improvements is so slight and precarious. With the constant anticipation that the fields which they have subjugated, the warm lodges they have erected, the clear cold springs they have discovered, are to be given up to the adventurous white man, whose surveys have already enclosed and surrounded their villages and "marked their trees," they have no courage for vigorous and hopeful effort.

José Maria, after the close of his "winter hunt," would not go back to his old village on the Brazos. His lands had been surveyed, (a subject about which he has been extremely sensitive,) and perhaps he feared interruption. The consequence has been that, upon new land, the corn-crop of his people (limited at best) has been unusually small; and their frail and imperfect lodges failing to afford the accustomed protection, they have experienced an unusual amount of sickness and mortality. I have adverted in my former reports to the obvious policy of the general government, in connexion with the State of Texas, assigning some territory to those tribes in Texas who have manifested a desire to establish homes for themselves, and to cultivate the arts of civilization.

I cannot resist the inclination to again call attention to this subject, as a step fundamental to any enlightened policy in the administration of Indian affairs in Texas.

These remarks do not, at present, apply to the Comanches and other wild tribes, whose habitations are as shifting as the winds of their own praries; but the three tribes to whom I have just alluded, together with several others, deserve this consideration, and are prepared to be benefited by it. The Caddoes are now indebted to the liberality of Major H. H. Sibley, in his capacity of a private citizen, that they have an hour's security in their homes and in the cultivation of their crops. He has generously given them written permission to occupy, for the term of five years, their present home, (which is his property.) He has made the same offer to José Marie, and, for want of any present expectations from the government, he will probably avail himself of the offer.

Surely a great government, such as ours, and a great State like Texas, with her vast public domain, will not permit the burden to rest upon a private citizen of furnishing these people with a home.

An effort was made in the Texas legislature last winter to confer a grant of lands upon these tribes. It received the earnest support, I believe, of a number of enlightened and liberal gentlemen; but from some cause the measure failed, legislation ending in vesting the Governor

with the power to appoint commissioners to confer upon this subject with commissioners to be appointed by the general government.

The Wacoes, Ta-wae-car-ros, and Keechis, according to their usual custom, have spent the summer in the vicinity of the Wichitas, (with whom they are much intermixed,) and have engaged in the chase of the buffalo on the plains beyond the Wichita mountains. A small portion of the former tribe have remained at their village on the Brazos and raised corn. I regret to add that circumstances have implicated some of the young men of this tribe in assisting the Wichitas in their depredations on this frontier. These several tribes are expected to return to spend the winter at their villages on the Brazos.

The Ton-ka-was have spent the summer on the Bosque, near this post, and, as I mentioned in one of my former reports, engaged for the first time in an attempt to raise corn. Their exertions and industry were very creditable, but I regret to say that their success was not commensurate with their efforts, owing to an unfortunate selection of ground to cultivate and the depredations of the grasshopper.

I made every effort to encourage them, visited them at their cornfields, and supplied them with seed. They have conducted themselves extremely well, and, so far as I can learn, have completely abstained from aggressions upon the property of our citizens. About a month and a half since, they left this vicinity, and are now staying on the Colorado, within the district of my colleague, Mr. Howard. While here I contributed to their necessities, so far as was practicable with the limited means at my disposal.

The Comanches have frequented the Brazos but rarely since they met me in council, near here, in January and February last. Many of them have doubtless spent the summer in pursuit of the buffalo further north: some of them have made occasional visits, as I learn, to the military posts on the San Saba and Concho. These will be noticed, however, by my colleagues. Within the past month they have been returning to the Brazos, and I shall probably be in communication with numbers of them again the ensuing winter.

In conclusion, allow me to repeat the suggestion urged in my report of 18th March last, "that a more liberal appropriation by Congress is absolutely essential to insure even a moderate efficiency or success in the conduct of Indian affairs in Texas." I can add nothing to the reasons or arguments urged upon that occasion, and I respectfully ask your attention to the views therein expressed. Conceiving it to be the true policy of our government to attract the Indians from the immediate border of our settlements, I have determined to remove my headquarters for the ensuing winter to a point on the Clear Fork of the Brazos, midway between the military posts at Fort Belknap and Phantom Hill; thus placing myself entirely outside of the advanced frontier settlements, and at a point easily accessible to all the Indians of the Brazos, and a favorite resort of the Comanches.

Respectfully submitted.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JESSE STERN,

One of the special agents for Indians of Texas.

Hon. L. LEA,

Commissioner of Indian Affairs, Washington City, D. C.

No. 63.

EXECUTIVE OFFICE, UTAH TERRITORY,
Department of Indian Affairs, Great Salt Lake, Sept. 29, 1852.

SIR: Herewith is transmitted my report, ending this 3d quarter of the present year, together with Majors Holeman and Rose's reports. I will briefly remark that all is peace among the native tribes in this superintendency; even on Mary's river we learn of no depredations of importance. This, however, is the usual result during the heavy emigration. Whether they will again commence when that has passed, and small companies again tempt their rapacity, time will develop. It is to be hoped that all parties travelling in that direction will give them no opportunity.

On the 6th day of August, ultimo, there arrived in this city six of the Shoshones, as messengers from that tribe to make inquiry in relation to trade, and ascertain if, possibly, peace might be made with the Wachor and the Utahs. This being a desirable object to accomplish, I made the messengers some presents, and informed them that I would send for the Utahs, to meet them, if they would come, and endeavor to accomplish the object which they seemed so ardently to desire. Accordingly, on the 3d day of September, after many fruitless efforts on our part to procure the Utahs, who appeared very wary and inclined to try the patience of the Shoshones to the uttermost, they were brought together; the Shoshones having been in waiting some two or three weeks. There were present, on the part of the Utahs, Wachor Sourette Antazo, Anker-howhitch, (Arrow-pine being sick,) and thirty-four lodges; on the part of the Shoshones, Wah-sho-kig, To-ter-mitch, Watche-namp, Ter-ret-e-ma, Pershe-go, and twenty-six lodges. The lodges were left a short distance from the city, the braves, amounting to about fifty in number on each side, attending the treaty. Major Holeman, having arrived from Carson valley just previous, by my invitation, was also present. Interpreters, D. B. Huntington and Elijah Wade. The main object seemed to be accomplished in getting them together upon a friendly footing.

I led off by asking Wachor and Wash-o-kig if they wished to make peace and be friends with each other. They replied they did. Will you make good peace that will last? Answered yes. I then said to Wachor, tell all of your tribe this, and ask them if they will do the same, and, if so, let every one arise and hold up his right hand. It was done unanimously. And the same explanation being made to the Shoshones by their chief, they also responded unanimously in the same manner. I then told them that they must never fight each other again, but must live in peace, so that they could travel in each other's country, and trade with each other. I then asked the Utes if we had been friends to them, and if they loved us? As soon as the question was explained to their understanding, they answered in the affirmative by acclamation, with evident signs of joy and good feeling. The pipe of peace, being first offered to the Great Spirit, was often replenished and sent around by the Shoshone chiefs, until every one had smoked in token of lasting friendship. The Utahs were then asked if they had any objections to our settling on their lands, and, if they had not, to

raise their right hands; which they did unanimously. Sow-er-ette, being the chief of the Uinta Utes, (two of his sons being present,) was also asked the same question. He replied that it was good for them to have us settle upon their lands, and that he wanted a house close beside us. I then asked the Shoshones how they would like to have us settle upon their lands at Green river. They replied that the land at Green river did not belong to them; that they lived and inhabited in the vicinity of the Wind River chain of mountains and the Sweet river, (or Sugar Water, as they called it;) but that if we would make a settlement on Green river they would be glad to come and trade with us. I expressed unto them my good feelings for their kindness in always being friendly to the whites, and for the safety in which all the emigrants had ever been able to pass through their country, and hoped they would always continue the same. If any of the whites should steal anything from them, it should be returned if I could find it; and if any of their tribe should steal anything from the whites, they must do the same. The Shoshones were expecting that Wachor and the Utes would give them some horses, according to their usual custom, for a certain number of Shoshones which they had killed in their last conflict, which occurred something over a year ago. Ten seemed to be about the number which had been killed, and the same number of horses were required, but finally agreed upon nine head. Walker now led off in quite a lengthy speech, in which he said that he had done wrong and was sorry for it. His friends had been killed on the Shoshones' land, and he had supposed that they had done it; but now he was satisfied that it was not them; that Brigham told him not to go, but he would not hear him; he had been sorry ever since, and so forth; had no horses now, but was going to trade with the Moquis next winter, and would bring the horses to Green river when he should return. I will hear now what Brigham says to me good, placing his hand on his breast; have been a fool, but will do better in future. To-ter-mitch, Shoshone chief, then said a few words. His ears were open wide to hear; it was good, and he felt well; his heart was good. I then directed that the chiefs should have some clothes and ammunition given to them, and some beef-cattle and flour, having been procured for the purpose, was distributed among them, when they left in apparently high spirits, and good and friendly feelings towards each other, as well as to the whites.

I have been thus explicit in giving the particulars of this interview, as it is the first that has occurred of a like nature since the settlements were founded, and it is hoped will result in long continued amity between the tribes. The Indians are universally fed and partially clad throughout the territory where settlements have been made, according to the ability of the people, and very many children are taken into families and have all the usual facilities for education afforded other children.

The following estimates are made out from past observation and experience, as well as a knowledge of the actual wants and necessities of the superintendency:

Goods for presents, such as blankets, shirts, hats, caps, shoes, pants, &c.		$5,000
Ammunition and guns		1,500
Provisions and tobacco		5,500
Total for presents		12,000
For Major Holeman's agency current—		
Expenses, as per bills of last year	$5,000	
Major Rose, as per bills of last year	3,500	
Two interpreters, say	1,000	
Total agencies		9,500
Superintendents, and defraying expenses of farming operations	$2,700	
Messengers on various business	600	
Expenses of office, clerk-hire and other general contingencies, including interpreters, $500	2,500	
		5,800
		27,300

It will be observed, that the above estimates do not contemplate holding of treaties or establishing schools, blacksmiths, mills, &c., at agencies, usual in other Territories, and would be desirable in this. The estimates for such purposes were made in my report of estimates to Elisha Whittlesey, esq., December 31, 1851, and have probably been received before this.

I have the honor to remain, very respectfully, your most obedient servant,

BRIGHAM YOUNG,
Governor, and ex-officio Superintendent of Indian Affairs, Utah Territory.

No. 64.

Great Salt Lake City,
Utah Territory, September 25, 1852.

Sir: The time has arrived when it becomes my duty to make to you my annual report. Since my report made to your excellency on the 30th of March, nothing occurred of importance until I left for the Humboldt and Carson valley, on the 12th May. I did not make a report for the quarter ending in June, for the reason that I was at that time *en route* to Carson valley, for the purpose of visiting the unfriendly Indians in that section of the Territory. I did not consider it important to report until I returned from the expedition, when I would be able to give a more satisfactory account of the situation of the Indians and the country, as well as my proceedings generally. I however addressed

the Commissioner of Indian Affairs two communications from Carson valley, dated June 28 and July 19, giving him information of all matters up to that time.

Governed by the opinion and advice of your excellency, as expressed in frequent conversations, I determined to proceed with the expedition, notwithstanding the various reports which reached this city of the danger and difficulties with which it would be attended. I therefore organized a company of twenty-five men, (the arrangements for this journey being hurried by the reports of the hostile determination of the Indians,) and left this place on the 12th of May. I did not think it prudent to let another year elapse without doing or attempting to do something to facilitate the travel, and give security to the emigration, who were expected on this route the present year in great numbers, and, if possible, meet the Indians and quiet their feelings of hostility to our people. I believed that the longer they were permitted to indulge in their acts of barbarity, murdering and plundering our citizens, the greater would be the expense and the greater the difficulty of producing a reconciliation, and giving peace and quiet to the route. I therefore determined, at all hazards, to make the effort, believing that, if successful, it would result in much good to the country, by giving relief and security to the emigration. If unsuccessful, I should have it in my power to give to the department such information as would enable the government to act in future. With these views, believing in the justice and importance of the expedition—believing that it would meet the views and wishes of the department—having received nothing but verbal instructions in regard to my duties, and feeling unwilling to remain idle while there was such important duty to perform—I determined to organize this company, and proceed to the scene of these troubles, to quiet them, if possible, or place the government in possession of such information as would enable her to do so. This course I considered due to myself as Indian agent for the Territory—due to the interests of the Territory, and due to the government. In getting up this company I thought it advisable to have a sufficient force for our own protection, as well as to enable us to afford assistance to the several trains which had preceded us if necessity should require it, particularly as reports had reached this place of the attacks by the Indians on these trains, some of which were said to have been entirely destroyed. These reports, however, I am pleased to say, were untrue. Little or no difficulty occurred to them on the whole route; and what did occur was attributed more to their own negligence than to the Indians. I travelled in company with these trains—consisting of stock, generally—sometimes with one and then with another, until I reached Carson valley, all being in advance of the emigration from the States.

I found the Indians on the whole route disposed to be friendly, or at least they professed to be so. Those I met with on this side of the Goose Creek mountains, about one hundred and eighty miles from this place, claimed to be of the Shoshonie tribe, and belonged to the band who reside in the neighborhood of Box Elder, some eighty miles north of this place. They professed to be on a hunting excursion, and on a

visit to a portion of their tribe who reside in these mountains; all of whom they reported friendly to the whites.

We subsequently met with a few scattering parties of this mountain tribe, generally called "Diggers," but who also claimed to be Shoshonies. They likewise professed friendship and great respect for the whites. After we arrived on the Humboldt, although there were many Indians to be seen in small parties, it was difficult to get a talk with them. Those, however, who we could prevail upon to meet us seemed remarkably friendly, and were much pleased with the kindness and friendship shown them by our company. They also claimed to be of the Shoshonie tribe. They seemed to be very poor, and unarmed, except with the bow and arrow. They said they had no wish to be at war with the whites, but that the whites were always at war with them; that they could not hunt or fish on the river but the whites were shooting them; that the whites would persuade them into their camps, professing great friendship, and, without any cause or offence on their part, would shoot them down. This conduct on the part of the whites, they said, was sometimes revenged by the Indians; but if the whites would let them alone, they would be glad, and would not disturb them in future. I had heard of several circumstances corroborating these charges, and was disposed to place some confidence in their statements. I gave them some presents as an earnest of our kind feelings towards them, and advised them to keep off the road—move their lodges into the mountains while the whites were passing, and that the whites would not disturb them. I requested them to talk with all the other Indians and advise them to the same course, which they promised me to do; and judging from the fact that no difficulties have occurred with the emigrant trains, so far as the Indians have been concerned, they were sincere in their friendship. From the general appearance of poverty and want among these Indians, I cannot believe that the depredations and murders which have occurred on this route can be attributed to them.

I found the Indians on Carson river laboring under the same difficulties with the Shoshonies. I visited a village of the Pi-utah tribe, numbering about three hundred and fifty, located some fifteen miles from the river, in the mountains, and had a long talk with them and their chiefs. I found them very friendly. They also expressed great anxiety to be on friendly terms with the whites. They said they had never disturbed the whites or their property until the whites commenced killing them, and robbing them of their horses, &c.; that they had submitted for a long time, but, finding that the whites continued to harass them, they determined to retaliate. They said they had killed as many whites as the whites had killed Indians, and taken as many horses from the whites as the whites had taken from them, and no more. They were now satisfied, and if the whites would let them alone, they would let the whites alone, and that their hearts would be glad. At first they appeared to suspect our friendly intentions; but when I told them of the friendly disposition of their Great Father, the *Big Captain* of the whites, they seemed much pleased. Two of their chiefs and six warriors accompanied me to my camp. I gave them some provisions and a few presents. I told them they must receive them as a gift from

their Great Father, and that they must treat their white brothers who travelled through their country with kindness, and their Great Father would be kind to them and cause all the whites to be so too. They seemed much pleased at the prospect of peace and friendship with the whites, and promised me that they would not disturb them or their property again.

There are several other bands or tribes located through the mountains and valleys on and near Carson river, who are represented as being very troublesome to emigration. Among them are the Washaws and Lokos, and a few scattering bands of the "White Knives." The latter principally reside in the Humboldt and Goose Creek mountains, but I could find none of them. If any of those I met with belonged to these bands, they would not confess it; nor could they give me any information concerning them, but spoke of them as being very bad Indians.

While in Carson valley I employed two gentlemen well acquainted with the mountains to accompany my interpreter, and endeavor to get me a talk with the chiefs of the Washaw and Loko tribes. They met with many of these tribes, but were unsuccessful in finding the chiefs. The Indians were kind to them, and seemed to have no hostility to the whites. As I was anxious to return and be on the road with the emigration, I could not devote the time necessary to hunt them up. If an agency were established in this valley, it would be an easy matter to collect them together and reconcile them to the whites; but it would require time to effect it. There would be more difficulty in preserving law and order with the whites who ramble through the country than with the Indians. It is thought that the Indians would give little or no trouble were it not for these lawless white men who are continually harassing them.

As I returned, in travelling up the Humboldt, I met but few Indians, and those I had great difficulty in getting a talk with. They had seen other Indians, who informed them that I had advised the Indians to keep off the road in order to prevent difficulties with the whites, and that they had generally done so. I met, upon an average, about three hundred wagons daily from the time I left the link of the Humboldt until I reached the Goose Creek mountains—a distance of upwards of four hundred miles. I inquired particularly in regard to the conduct of the Indians. The almost universal reply was that they had seen but few Indians, all of whom appeared friendly disposed, and that the Indians on the route had been far less troublesome than the white men. Many of the emigrants expressed the opinion that the only difficulties which had occurred—and they were but few—had been the acts of white men. Since my return to this place all the information I have received justifies the conclusion that the Indians have complied with their promises made to me, and that the expedition has been of service in producing peace and quiet on this road. Up to this time I have heard of no depredations being committed by the Indians. All is peace and quiet on the route.

Having no authority to enter into any treaty stipulations with these Indians, all I could do was to see them, and by friendly means, and by distributing among them a few presents and some provisions, impress

upon them the friendly disposition of the government towards them, and, if possible, quiet their hostile feelings towards the whites, and thereby prevent a recurrence of those scenes which have heretofore been so fatal to the emigration and so destructive to life and property. The Indians in this section of the Territory, although they appear to be in a wild and savage state, and have had but little intercourse with the whites, seem to have a very correct idea of the power and importance of our government. They were much pleased with the idea that the "Big Captain" of the whites, as they term the President, knew them, and was friendly disposed towards them. They received the presents I gave them in a manner peculiar to them; exhibiting the strongest evidence of their gratitude and respect.

I think it important that government should establish posts on this route: one on the Humboldt, at or near the mouth of the south fork, some twenty miles below where the road first strikes the river. It is about three hundred miles from this place, and about four hundred and fifty from the Mormon station in Carson valley, where there should be another post established. These posts, with a few soldiers, would not only protect the route, but greatly aid the department in establishing friendly relations with the Indians; which will be no easy matter under the existing state of things. There are white men who are more desperate, and who commit more depredations, it is thought, than the Indians, and who keep the Indians in a constant state of excitement. It will require extreme measures to keep them in order; but when once the country is rid of them, I do not doubt but that the Indians will be easily managed. As the valley of the Humboldt does not furnish facilities for farming operations, it can never become a settled country. Besides the total absence of timber throughout its whole course, from the time the road first strikes it to the sink, the soil is generally of that character which would render it unproductive. Add to this, that in the spring season the river overflows its banks, and much of the most valuable land is so cut up with sloughs that it would be impossible to cultivate it, with the least hope of success, to any extent, as the water does not leave nor the ground dry before late in June. On Carson river there is some timber where the road strikes it after crossing the desert, and for a few miles up. The bottoms, for about fifty miles up the river, are similar to those on the Humboldt, not well calculated for farming operations; but when you approach to within thirty or forty miles of the head of the valley, the land becomes better, the mountains approach nearer to the river, and you find them covered to their base with the best kind of pine timber, well calculated for building purposes. Here would be the proper place for an agency, as the soil is good, with plenty of fine grass and water. It would also be convenient for operations with the Indians. I have heretofore recommended that a treaty should be held with the Indians in this Territory. I earnestly repeat the recommendation; for, until some measure is adopted by which the Indians, as well as the whites, may know their respective rights and privileges, it is vain to expect that the Indian affairs of this Territory can be placed on an amicable footing—such as will be satisfactory to both parties. If something is not done to effect this object, in the course of a few years the Indians will be compelled to give up their

present locations to an emigrating population, and be driven forth to perish on the plains; or the government will find herself embroiled in a war with all these mountain tribes. In the section of country bordering on the Humboldt and Carson rivers, where a portion of the mischievous Indians have resided for years, and where they still reside, game used to abound in great quantities; but the emigration which annually pass that route have killed and driven it off, which has placed the Indians in such a condition that many of them are almost in a starving state. If the government intends to carry into effect the benevolent design of establishing friendly relations with these Indians, to better their condition, and give peace and security to the vast and increasing emigration of her citizens, who are annually passing through their country to California and Oregon, it will be necessary to adopt efficient measures at once. The Indians seem friendly disposed, and will at no time be better prepared for friendly negotiations than at present.

For the want of means and proper instructions, the Indian affairs of this Territory are not in a very prosperous condition. The country is wild and mountainous; most of the Indians who roam over it have had but little intercourse with the whites, and from their savage nature and untamed habits, together with the lawlessness of many whites who infest the country, and who are often more reckless than the Indians themselves, it is very difficult, as well as dangerous, to attempt to do anything with them, particularly those who have been for years plundering and murdering the emigration without fear or restraint; yet, judging from the information I have received on this expedition, I do not hesitate to say that a great change, if not a radical reformation, may be effected by a judicious and timely effort. To effect this object, which is of so much importance to the interests of the Territory, and to the citizens of the various States emigrating to California and Oregon, time and means are necessary; and if it is the intention of the government to establish peace and quiet on this route, the sooner it is done the better. Delay will but increase the difficulty and greatly add to the expense.

As it has been commenced, and has been so far successful, it seems to me that it is to the interest of the government that it should be attended to without delay. I have already gone as far as, and perhaps farther than my powers and instructions would strictly justify; but when I reflect upon the difficulties and suffering which occurred on this route during the past year—the great destruction of life and property—I consider the labor and expense as small—very small—when contrasted with the good it has effected. I am gratified, however, to know that the expedition not only met with your approbation, but that you advised it as necessary and important.

In raising the company which accompanied me on this expedition, I found it impossible to employ the requisite number of men who were in a situation to furnish their own horses. I was, therefore, compelled to purchase horses for those who could not furnish them. This item has greatly increased the amount of expenditures, but I have no doubt I shall be able to dispose of these horses at a price that the government will sustain but little loss; besides, she has had the benefit of

their services. I could not employ men who furnished their own horses and rigging for less than $35 per month; while those to whom I furnished horses were allowed but $25. In order to save expenses, when I arrived at Carson valley I discharged several of my men, keeping only a sufficient number for herding, taking care of horses, camp, &c., as the horses required some recruiting before I could commence my return-trip. I have disposed of a few of these horses, as will be seen by my return of property. The expense of recruiting would have been as great as, if not greater than the loss sustained by the sale. Many of them were very much reduced and worn out by the fatigues of the trip, having to subsist upon grass alone—and that often very scarce.

The item for presents was applied to the best advantage, by distributing them only to the chiefs and men of influence in the tribes. It had a very good effect, as it was unusual for them to receive such evidence of friendship from the whites.

I have thought proper to submit to your consideration the propriety of an expedition from this city, with the view of establishing a better and a shorter road to California, taking a more southern route than the one now travelled. From information I received from General Estill, of California, who had made a partial survey of this route for some one hundred and seventy-five miles from this city, and also from General Morehead, who had reviewed a route from California to the headwaters of Walker's river, in this Territory, leaving a space between the two surveys, of unexplored country estimated at about two hundred miles. I am induced to believe that a better road could be made, giving every facility of grass and water, and at the same time shortening the distance some two or three hundred miles.

The above-named gentlemen will use their influence in California to facilitate the survey. Should the department deem it important to order this expedition, I will with pleasure attend it. There are many Indians through this country which it might be important to visit, and by a proper and timely interchange of friendships a route may be established, which cannot fail to be of lasting benefit to this Territory, as well as great convenience to all future emigration to and from California.

I herewith enclose you an account of the expenses incurred in the expedition to Carson valley, together with an account of the property on hand, which you will please transmit to the department. I have made use of every economy with regard to every description of expense, and hope the result of the expedition, its benefits, and its expenditures, may meet the approbation of the department. Of one thing I feel certain—the expedition could not have been taken at a better time, could not have been more successful in its results, and could not have cost the government less.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. H. HOLEMAN,
Indian Agent, Utah Territory.

His Excellency Brigham Young,
Superintendent Indian Affairs, Utah Territory.

No. 65.

INDIAN SUPERINTENDENCY,
Oregon, September 23, 1852.

SIR: I have the honor to submit herewith my third annual report upon the condition of Indian affairs within the Oregon Superintendency.

Since my last report, two Indian agents, Edmund A. Starling and Alonzo A. Skinner, have received commissions, and entered without delay upon the duties assigned them. I located Mr. Starling at Steilacoom, on Puget's sound, and Mr. Skinner in the Rogue's River valley, southern Oregon. Copies of the instructions given to each were forwarded to you on the 10th October last. I have expected that detailed reports from them would arrive in time to accompany my own, but the already advanced season will not permit a longer delay; and their respective reports will be forwarded very soon after they are received at this office. I have, however, been in regular correspondence with the agents, and such letters, and portions of letters, as are considered important, not already forwarded, will be copied to accompany this report.

The post upon the Utilla river, in upper Oregon, lately occupied by Elias Wampole, esq., is now in care of special agent Luke Torrance; and I am glad to add, that the numerous calls and business matters there receive prompt attention. It is to be regretted that Mr. Elkanah Walker should have declined the appointment of agent for that place, as his qualifications fitted him for its duties, and many friends solicited it on his behalf. The reasons advanced by him for declining were set forth in a letter to you dated July 21.

On the 4th of August last, I addressed a letter to you recommending sub-agent Parrish for the office named, and, knowing that he will cheerfully accept, if appointed, I am quite anxious to learn your decision in regard to it. Mr. Parrish, like Rev. Mr. Walker, was formerly a missionary, and "religious duty," he says, will overbalance all other considerations connected with his removal there.

Before taking my leave for Washington in November last, I found it necessary to have a sub-agent at Astoria, in place of Robert Shortiss, and succeded in securing the services of Lewis H. Judson, esq., to act as special sub-agent until my return, or until he should be appointed to the office; and I have to inform you that he commenced duty in such capacity on the 5th of February, and has received pay from that time. His bond was approved on the 12th of May last. He is located upon the treaty-ground at Tansey point, mouth of the Columbia river.

The bond of Samuel Culver, esq., lately appointed sub-Indian agent, was approved and placed on file in this office on the 7th instant; and very soon thereafter Mr. C. left for Port Orford, his destined post, with full instructions for his guidance. I have no doubt but that he will make a faithful and capable officer.

Sub-agent Parrish continues his efficient duties in the Willamette valley, his headquarters being at Sabine. In the event of his receiving the appointment of agent to reside at the Utilla, as before alluded to, I will endeavor to recommend a capable person to occupy the place he leaves. While speaking of the sub-agents, I am reminded to say that

no appropriation appears to have been recommended by the Commissioner, in his "estimate of money required for the current expenses of the Indian department," for their pay this year in Oregon.

The troubles growing out of the whiskey trade with the Indians are mostly confined to the country about Puget's sound and Shoal-Water bay. The traffic is carried on by persons engaged in the collection of oysters for the California trade. Liquor is brought in ships and given to the Indians in exchange for their labor in collecting oysters. Agent Starling has succeeded in destroying large quantities of whiskey in vessels on the sound, and the trade in that quarter will very soon be effectually stopped; but at Shoal-Water bay it must remain unmolested at present, for it is absolutely impossible to reach these unlawful traders upon the ocean without the aid of a revenue cutter, or some quick-sailing craft, properly manned, and fully authorized to act promptly upon the offenders. It is a source of much embarrassment and regret to me that I cannot take immediate steps to eradicate this formidable evil, and make an example of the unprincipled characters so manifestly violating the law.

No appropriation has been made by Congress for the Indian department in Oregon, that could, in conformity to law, be applied to the cost (which is very great) of preventing these California vessels from engaging in this illicit traffic along the Pacific coast. It will, then, I think, be apparent to the department, that the superintendent, and agents under his direction, labor under embarrassing circumstances when attempting to cope with this organized band of smugglers.

In this, as in all other Indian countries, the chief source of trouble with the Indians arises out of the use of ardent spirits amongst them; but within the *accessible limits* of the Territory, with the aid and co-operation of my efficient corps of agents and sub-agents, I have succeeded in breaking up and destroying all, or nearly all, the liquor establishments where this bane has been dealt to them. I now feel quite confident that, with liberal appropriations at the next session of Congress for the purpose, together with instructions to act, I can keep the coast clear in future, and intimidate those whose sense of justice would not prevent them from readily engaging in this profitable trade.

I am sorry to record here that serious difficulties have from time to time occurred in that portion of southern Oregon known as the Rogue's River country, between the miners engaged in digging gold and the Indians; but I am not in possession of sufficient facts, connected with the origin of these disturbances, to come to satisfactory conclusions as to who are most to be blamed—the whites or the Indians. The account which agent Skinner gave of a recent difficulty between the miners and Indians in his immediate neighborhood, in which a number of the latter were killed, was forwarded with my letter to you on the 6th instant.

These unfortunate occurrences are seriously to be regretted. I have good reason to believe, however, that most, if not all, of the difficulties with the Indians in the southern portion of Oregon will subside so soon as treaties are made with them for their lands, and a judicious selection of country made for their future residence. At the same time, in view of the present state of things, I think there should be

located in a proper place in that country, a small detachment of United States troops, to keep in check improper conduct on the part of the whites as well as the Indians. As I have before suggested the propriety of doing this, I will not here enlarge upon the subject. Had I have had funds applicable to the object, I should long since have visited that portion of Oregon, for the purpose of making treaties with the Indians for the lands now so generally occupied by the gold-diggers.

In connexion with the subject of Indian treaties, I will here remark, that it is peculiarly unfortunate that so much delay occurs in getting the decision of the President and Senate upon the treaties negotiated with the Oregon Indians. It is exceedingly difficult—nay, impossible—to convey to them intelligibly the causes of delay on my part in fulfilling the promise made. The month of June last was fixed upon to pay the first annuity to the Port Orford Indians; but in this particular no precise time was fixed with the other tribes and bands with whom I negotiated treaties.

It is a matter of earnest solicitation with me, that the apprehended difficulties at Port Orford, alluded to in my letter of the 6th instant, may be averted by the timely arrival of Mr. Culver, who may be able to pacify the Indians until the annuities they so anxiously expect shall arrive. And you may be assured that no time will be lost in forwarding the goods after the news of the ratification of the treaties is received, accompanied with instructions as to the mode of procuring the articles.

Owing to the great length of time that must always necessarily intervene between the making and ratification of Indian treaties in Oregon, I take the liberty to suggest the propriety of permitting the superintendent to cause a small payment to be made to the Indians at the time and place of concluding any treaty, and the payment to be considered the first in conformity to its conditions. I am confident that this would be more satisfactory to the Indians than to receive the same amount as a present, and then be liable to meet with disappointment in the time, as understood by them, that they were to receive their first payment. Whether, to carry out this suggestion, it would require an act of Congress, or if it would come within the powers now given to the President, as provided in the 17th section of the act of Congress of 30th June, 1834, I am undetermined, and would be happy to have your decision in regard to it.

Several of the Indian tribes of upper Oregon, visited by me in the summer of 1851, manifest great desire to be furnished with useful farming implements—such as ploughs, axes, sickles, hoes, &c.—showing conclusively thereby that they are truly anxious to adopt some of the most useful (to them) of the habits of the whites. I hope, therefore, that the government will make suitable provision for complying with so reasonable a request. It is a well-known fact that the Indians of Oregon are more inclined to be industrious than any wild tribes beyond the mountains. To encourage these habits, then, by affording them facilities to work and support themselves, as the fruits of the chase disappear, would surely be a laudable enterprise, and productive of much real good.

The superintendent's house, with the improvements connected there-

with, is finished, but the entire expense cannot now be accurately ascertained; though I will forward, at as early a day as practicable, a complete statement of the cost of the improvement. You will, however, observe, by reference to the copy of a letter accompanying this report, marked C, that the investment is a good one for the government. Should the necessary appropriation for a storehouse be made, the building should be erected, I think, on the same lot with the present dwelling, and upon the bank of the river, where vessels can safely come that can reach Portland, (six miles below.) Referring to the value of the present building, I think a storehouse would add proportionately to the value of the whole.

The agency-house at the Utilla river, in upper Oregon, is finished as far as was contemplated, and the cost is $3,635 69, (three thousand six hundred and thirty-five dollars and sixty-nine cents.) No just idea can be formed by those on the Atlantic side of the country of the enormous cost of building in that part of Oregon, so far from the settlements as this building is located. The causes are apparent to those located here, but it may not be important to detail them in this place.

In view, then, of the unreasonable prices which would now be necessary to pay for the transportation of building materials interior, I am of opinion that it would be advisable to defer building other houses for agents for a season, as there is a reasonable prospect that the price of labor as well as of materials for the purpose, will be, in one or two years, greatly reduced; while saw-mills are being erected in remote places, and all the facilities for getting to and from the back countries are fast improving.

The estimate of money required for the use of the Indian department in Oregon, for the year commencing July 1, 1853, is as follows:

For the pay of superintendent and three agents, seven thousand dollars.

For the pay of three sub-agents, two thousand two hundred and fifty dollars.

For the pay of nine interpreters, four thousand five hundred dollars.

For travelling and contingent expenses, four thousand dollars.

For clerk-hire, office-rent, fuel, lights, and stationery, three thousand dollars.

For continuing negotiations with the Indian tribes west of the Cascade mountains, including presents, twenty thousand dollars.

For the building of a storehouse in which to store Indian goods, five thousand dollars.

To the above should be added the necessary amount to pay the regular annuities upon Indian treaties that may have been confirmed by the President and Senate.

My estimates for the pay of salaries to the superintendent and agents are for amounts now allowed by law: and under this head I will advance the remark, that it is extremely difficult to procure faithful agents and interpreters at the prices now allowed; the latter-named I am obliged to board at my own private expense.

The amount estimated "for continuing negotiations with the Indian tribes west of the Cascade mountains," is believed to be sufficient to

close all the treaties necessary to be made with these Indians, provided prudence and economy are used.

With a proper regard to the interests of the country and government, I hope the amount estimated "for travelling and contingent expenses," will not be reduced. A sum equal to one-half this amount having been stricken out of the last year's "deficiency bill," made it difficult to travel and watch, with the required scrutiny, the inroads made by liquor venders.

I renew, in this estimate, the application for an appropriation "to build a storehouse in which to store Indian goods," it being so apparent to me that it would be a matter of economy, as storage is proportionably high with other things. Besides this, there are some materials on hand—such as would be required in its construction, viz: nails, glass, fastenings, &c., with water-lime for a foundation.

The Commissioner was kind enough during the last session of Congress to address a letter to the chairman of the Committee on Indian Affairs in the Senate, giving it as his opinion that a law should be passed allowing the same pay and giving the same powers to the superintendent in Oregon as were given to that officer in California. While such a law would enable the superintendent to receive adequate pecuniary compensation for the duties performed, it would allow him, like his brother officer in an adjoining State, to settle the accounts of the agents without submitting them to the tedious delay incident to sending accounts on to Washington to be audited, and consequently render the service of these untiring agents less embarassing; for the money for his current travelling expenses, as well as his salary, could be paid over to him quarterly.

I may be pardoned for alluding to the subject of increased pay to the officers of the Indian department in Oregon, as there is such manifest wrong in paying the same grade of office, where the expenses of living are less, exactly *double* the compensation allowed here.

My prolonged absence on the business of my office in Washington, during the last year, has prevented me from collecting as much statistical information in regard to the Indians of Oregon as I could desire. Early steps, however, have been taken to fulfil the requirements contained in your circular letter of date May 31, 1852, accompanying forms for a "census, and also for vocabularies and numerals of the several Indian tribes," &c. Since forms like the above-named have been sent to the agents and sub-agents, I hope to be able at an early day to furnish you with the information desired, made up as accurately as it is possible to obtain it.

The copies of letters marked A and B are considered useful, as giving information concerning the region of country assigned to agent Skinner, and are respectfully submitted with my report. The one marked C, before alluded to, is the copy of a letter from Capt. L. Whitcomb, tendering an offer for the superintendent's house, and is also respectfully submitted.

In concluding this report, I will exhibit a statement of the amount of receipts and disbursements for the year commencing July 1, 1851, and ending June 30, 1852.

Amount on hand July 1, 1851	$2,477 44
Receipts up to June 30, 1852	22,625 00
Total	25,102 44
Disbursements up to June 30, 1852	24,308 42
Balance	794 02

I have received, also, the sum of $350 87 from Governor John P. Gaines, (while acting as chairman of the "Board of Commissioners to treat with the Indian tribes west of the Cascade mountains,") for treaty purposes. This sum, together with $3,000 borrowed from General John Adair, collector of the customs at Astoria, was used in negotiating the thirteen treaties with the Oregon Indians, during August and September, 1851; all of which has been duly accounted for.

I remain, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

ANSON DART,
Superintendent.

Hon. LUKE LEA,
Commissioner of Indian Affairs.

No. 66.—A.

ROGUE'S RIVER VALLEY,
November 25, 1851.

SIR: In obedience to instructions received from your office, dated October 10, 1851, on the 13th ultimo I left Oregon city, *en route* for the district assigned to me, and on the 15th instant arrived at Perkin's Ferry, on Rogue's river.

On my way here I met the principal part of that portion of the Calapooya tribe of Indians who reside in the northern part of the Umpqua valley. I found them friendly disposed towards the whites, but very impatient, and much dissatisfied that the proper persons to purchase their lands had not visited them. In consequence of the state of feeling which existed, I thought it highly advisable to make them some kind of presents; but, owing to the limited number of blankets and the small quantity of calico which I had with me, I did not deem it proper to give any of the goods away until I should get further south. I therefore concluded to make them a present of a beef ox, which I found roaming on the prairie in the neighborhood of Mr. Applegate's, which was said to belong to the United States, but which I subsequently found to be claimed by William S. Martin, esq., of Winchester. I was not able at the time to procure the necessary vouchers, but can do so when I come in next summer.

On my arrival at the mouth of the Kanyou, I met a part of the band of Indians who reside in that vicinity, and had a *talk* with them, and made them some presents of blankets and calico. I also left thirty-five (35) blankets and one hundred and fifty-one (151) yards of calico with Mr. Joseph Knott, to be given to such of the tribe as could not be pres-

ent in consequence of sickness, the weather being very inclement at the time. I have since learned that he has distributed the presents in accordance with my directions. From all I could learn, these Indians are entirely friendly, and anxious to sell their lands to the government. I assured them that you would be there next summer, for the purpose of making the purchase. With that assurance, and the presents which I made them, they appeared perfectly satisfied.

At Perkin's Ferry I met about one hundred of the Umpqua band of Rogue's River Indians, including the chiefs and principal men of the Grave Creek band, with whom I had a *talk*, and to whom I made presents of blankets and calico. They appeared quite friendly, and well pleased with the presents.

At the same time and place I met a portion of the Shasta band of Rogue's River Indians. I also made them presents, and found them much more familiar and friendly than I had anticipated. This portion of the tribe reside principally on the main river between the Ferry and Table rock.

At the request of *Joe* and *Sam*, the principal chiefs of the Rogue's River Indians, I met another part of the Shasta band a few days subsequently, on the river, about eighteen miles above the Ferry, to whom I made presents of what blankets and calico I had remaining, and of the tin pans and pails. These Indians were from different parts of the upper valley, and represented all the different bands residing there, with the exception of those living on the head-waters of the main branch of the river.

From what I saw of these Indians, I am satisfied that, by the exercise of a little forbearance and discretion on the part of the whites, any further difficulties may be avoided. I believe the only portions of the Indians in this valley from whom any difficulty is to be apprehended, unless some provocation shall be given them, are those living in the vicinity of the foot of the Siskin mountains, and those in the valley of the Main fork, above Table rock.

With the Umpqua band no difficulty of any consequence has occurred since last summer; and I am satisfied that it will require some serious outrage on the part of the whites to arouse them to hostility. I have availed myself of every opportunity which has presented itself to learn the truth with reference to the difficulty which occurred near the Siskin mountains on the 29th ultimo, and, from all that I can learn, I am well satisfied that it was the result of a misunderstanding between the whites and the Indians, and not in consequence of any previous hostile feelings on the part of the Indians, and that there was as much blame to be attributed to the whites as to the Indians; and in all the *talks* I have had with the Indians I have told them that the whites were willing to overlook and forget all the murders which have occurred on either side, but that property taken by the Indians from the whites, or by the whites from the Indians, must be restored.

From the acquaintance I have had with Joe and Sam, I have been very favorably impressed. They appear entirely friendly, and to have sufficient intelligence to see that neither they nor their people have anything to gain by hostility with the whites; but that, on the contrary, it is to their interest to cultivate the most friendly relations with both the

whites, who are settled in their country, and those who are passing through it, and I have no doubt they will use all their influence to keep their people quiet; and from the acquaintance I have had with the whites settled in the valley, I think they are disposed to pursue a course calculated to secure the peace of the country.

I have not, as yet, had time to make a selection of a location, but am at present at what is called the Willow Springs, about twenty-five miles above Perkin's Ferry, and just at the lower part of the main valley of Rogue's river, and about five miles south of Table Rock.

From what I have seen, I am satisfied that the presence of the agent in this vicinity will be more necessary than in any other part of the agency, and I think I shall locate within from five to ten miles of this place.

I have not yet had time to acquire sufficient knowledge of the country to give you any description of it; but, from what I have seen, I am highly pleased with the appearance of the valley. The view from this point is the finest I have ever seen.

If you could send me one hundred or one hundred and fifty blankets, and from three to four hundred yards of calico, it would assist me very much in securing the peace and quiet of the country in my agency. There are many Indians who have not been present when I made presents, and consequently have not yet received any; and the number which I had was too small to enable me to retain any for those not present.

In great haste, I have the honor to be, respectfully, your obedient servant,

A. A. SKINNER,
Indian Agent for Southwestern Oregon.

ANSON DART, Esq.,
Superintendent Indian Affairs, Oregon.

No. 67.—B.

INDIAN AGENCY, ROGUE'S RIVER,
August 6, 1852.

SIR: In obedience to your instructions of the 10th October last I have endeavored to ascertain, as near as practicable, the number of Indians inhabiting that portion of this agency lying between the Umpqua mountain on the north and the Cascade range on the east, the Siskin mountain on the south and the summit of the coast range on the west. Owing to the limited acquaintance I have been enabled to form with the Indians of this valley since my arrival here last November, I have no great confidence in the entire accuracy of the numbers as given below; but I believe them not very far from correct.

Number of men, 406; of women, 443; of boys, 159; and girls, 146.

I have found the number of Indians in this portion of the agency much less than I anticipated when I arrived here. I have no doubt that but the number of men and women is given with tolerable accuracy; but the number of children is, I apprehend, much less than the actual number.

The whole country from the Calapooya creek, in the Umpqua valley, to the Siskin mountain, is occupied by the Umpqua and Shasta tribes of Indians; and these tribes are subdivided into various bands, each claiming separate and distinct portions of territory. But, owing to the shortness of the time I have been located in this agency, and the difficulty of communicating with the natives, in consequence of not being able to procure an interpreter who can speak either the Umpqua or Shasta languages—the Indians having but an imperfect knowledge of the *Chinook jargon*—I have found it impossible to ascertain the boundaries of the territories of the different bands into which the principal tribes are divided.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

ALONZO A. SKINNER,
Indian Agent, Southwestern Oregon.

ANSON DART, Esq.,
Supt. Indian Affairs for Oregon, Milwaukie, O. T.

No. 68.—C.

MILWAUKIE, *September* 2, 1852.

DEAR SIR: Will you be so kind as to inform me, at your earliest convenience, whether government will dispose of the Indian agency house and grounds now occupied by you for that purpose, upon the west side of the Willamette river, opposite "Milwaukie claim," which last-named claim I have sold for $150,000? If so, at what price?

I feel safe in offering *fifty per cent.* over and above first cost, as the location suits me well on account of its many advantages for commercial purposes, being at the head of ship navigation, and the water-power and farming facilities being convenient to it.

Your answer to the above inquiry will be duly appreciated.

I am, dear sir, your obedient servant,

LOT WHITCOMB.

ANSON DART, Esq.,
Superintendent Indian Affairs, Oregon.

No. 69.

INDIAN SUPERINTENDENCY, OREGON,
September 2, 1852.

SIR: Your letter of this date, in which you tender an offer of fifty per cent. above first cost for the "government superintendency house and grounds," has been received, and, in reply, I would state that a copy of your letter will be transmitted to the Hon. L. Lea, Commissioner of Indian Affairs, at Washington, for his consideration, and his reply will be made known to you at the earliest possible time.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

ANSON DART,
Superintendent Indian Affairs.

LOT WHITCOMB, Esq.,
Milwaukie, Oregon Territory.

No. 70.

INDIAN AGENCY, ROGUE RIVER VALLEY,
July 26, 1852.

SIR: We have again been involved in difficulties with the Indians of this valley, which, however, are at this time, I believe, happily settled, and friendly feeling again restored between the whites and Indians. As various, and perhaps erroneous reports with reference to the affair will undoubtedly reach you, I have thought it advisable to give you a detailed account of the origin and progress of the difficulty, so far as the facts have come within my knowledge.

About the 8th instant a white man, while passing from Shasty to Scott's valley, was murdered under circumstances that rendered it almost certain that the murder had been committed by Indians, and it was subsequently ascertained from friendly Indians that the man had been murdered by three Indians, some of whom were supposed to be Shasties from Shasty valley. The whites immediately arrested the Shasty chief, and demanded of him the murderers. I am informed that he refused to deliver them up, and shortly afterwards made his escape, and that immediately the whites commenced a war of extermination against the Shasties—shooting down every Indian that could be found. The knowledge of the difficulty at Shasty and Scott's vallies was soon spread among the Indians of this valley, causing much excitement and alarm.

About the time of the murder of the white man at Scott's valley, Sam, the principal war-chief of the Indians of this valley, went to the house of Dr. Ambrose, who resides about two miles from the *Big Bar* on Rogue river, (the usual winter residenee of Sam,) and demanded of him three beef-cattle, or that he should immediately leave the place; stating that he, Sam, had previously sold the land to Wm. G. T'Vault, esq. Sam at the same time proposed to trade two Indian children and a horse and some money for a little girl of Dr. Ambrose, about two years of age. Sam's manner at the time was such as to cause the docter to apprehend that he intended to take the child by force if he could not otherwise obtain it. The next morning I went down and saw Sam, and, as I supposed at the time, settled the difficulty to the satisfaction of both parties.

On the 15th instant some fifteen or twenty Indians came to the camp of some whites, near the house of Dr. Ambrose, and, from what I can learn, appeared angry, and stated in substance "that the whites were not good; that they were killing all the Indians over at Shasty; that the whites here had not done right in this valley, and that they intended to make them do right hereafter;" and while a white man was loading a gun, an Indian went up to him and told him to put the gun down, and attempted to take the gun from him. The Indians also inquired for Sam. At this time a party of white men, who were coming up the river, arrived, when the Indians immediately left.

The party of white men passed on to Jacksonville, the town at the *diggins*, and the account which they give of the affair was such as to cause great excitement, and to induce the people to raise a company of some seventy-five or eighty men for the purpose of fighting the Indians

The company thus raised determined to start immediately in pursuit of the Indians, and to attack them wherever found. This was all done without giving me the slightest intimation of what was transpiring.

On the morning of the 16th I accidentally learned what had taken place, and immediately hastened to town and endeavored to dissuade the men from attacking the Indians until I could see them, and ascertain what their intentions were. This request was ultimately so far complied with as to agree to march down to Dr. Ambrose's, and there halt for a short time, to give me an opportunity of seeing the Indians; at the same time they appointed a committee of four, to accompany me in the proposed interview with the Indians.

On the arrival of the committee and myself at the *Big Bar*, we discovered Sam on the opposite side of the river. We requested him to come across the river, as we wished to talk with him. As soon as he saw who we were, (he being well acquainted with the most of the committee,) he and another Indian came over to us. He stated that he was not angry with the whites; that he did not wish to fight; and proposed to send for all his people, and also for his brother *Joe*, the principal chief, and have them all meet us on the Big Bar the next day. To this proposition we consented, and I informed Sam that there would be some seventy or eighty white men present, as I wished them all to hear what was said. To this he expressed his assent.

About 9 o'clock on the morning of the 17th instant, a party of about ten or twelve men arrived at the bar, from Shasty or Scott's valley, for the purpose, as they alleged, of demanding of the Indians of this valley the Indians who were supposed to have murdered the white man in Scott's valley, and who, they said, had fled to this valley. Just previous to their arrival on the bar, the party from Shasty arrested an Indian belonging on the creek above the agency. As soon as I was made aware of the fact, I demanded the release of the Indian; but the party refused to release him.

About 10 o'clock on the same morning, the company moved up to the bar, and, as the Indians had not arrived, I crossed the river, in company with four or five white men—all of whom were known to the Indians—and went up to the Indian camp, about a mile and a half above where the company had halted. After some conversation with Joe and Sam, they agreed to go down and cross the river. When we arrived opposite the whites, they were all mounted and drawn up in a line, facing the river, and in range of the Indians as they crossed the river. Joe and Sam immediately inquired why the men were drawn up in that order, and stated that their people were afraid to cross. I requested the men to withdraw some hundred and fifty yards from the bank, and to dismount, stack their arms in the rear, and sit down on the ground; which request was complied with. Joe and Sam then crossed the river with me, (the main body of the Indians not having yet arrived,) and as soon as the Indians came down, they talked to them across the river, and informed me that they were telling them to come over. Only a few of the Indians, however, came over. During the day the men appeared very restless, and determined to attack the Indians.

Sam having recrossed the river, as he stated, for the purpose of per-

suading his people to come over, I informed the captain of the company that if the men would remain seated on the ground, and do nothing which the Indians could construe into evidence of hostility, I would go over the river again, and endeavor to persuade the Indians to come over. To this the captain consented, and I went across the river. Soon after I arrived where the Indians were, an Indian came down and told Sam that quite a number of Indians had just arrived at his camp from Table Rock. Sam, as he informed me, sent the messenger immediately back to tell the Indians to come, [down,] and told me that as soon as his people arrived he and all his Indians would go over the river with me.

At this time two of my friends came across the river and informed me that the whites were about to attack the Indians, and advised me to recross the river as soon as possible, as I should be entirely in the power of the Indians in case of an attack. I informed Sam that the whites were getting very impatient at the delay of the Indians, and that it was advisable for me to go over and talk to them. To this he appeared entirely willing. On recrossing the river I found most of the men mounted, and the greatest excitement prevailing. I informed them of what Sam had told me, but they refused to delay any longer, and proposed to shoot down the few Indians—some twenty or twenty-five—who had crossed over to us. Mr. Martin Angel, formerly of Oregon city, but now of this valley, for the purpose of saving the lives of the Indians, proposed to take them prisoners. Most of the Indians, being acquainted with him, readily consented to go with him to a log house, some hundred yards from where they were; but, before they arrived at the house, the Indians became alarmed at the conduct of the whites, when one of them attempted to make his escape. Some allege that the Indian attempted to draw his bow; others, that he endeavored to draw his knife; and others who were present, say that he attempted neither, but only endeavored to make his escape. Upon the Indian's thus attempting to escape, a man by the name of John Galvin, one of the party from Shasty, fired upon him. The firing now became pretty general upon both sides; many who were opposed to commencing the attack thinking it now necessary to fight in self-defence. Four of the prisoners were immediately killed; the balance made their escape. No white men were injured, so far as I have been able to learn. The firing continued pretty brisk for some ten or fifteen minutes across the river from both sides, but with little effect, when a part of the Indians retreated down the river and a part up. In a few minutes the firing recommenced about a mile and a half down the river, but without effect on either side. I am satisfied the arresting of the Indian herein referred to by the party from Shasty, did much to intimidate the Indians, and to prevent an amicable adjustment of all the difficulties between the whites and Indians. I am also satisfied, from what I saw myself, and from what I have learned from others, that a man by the name of —— Steel, who pretended to be the leader of the party from Shasty, was principally instrumental in causing the attack on the prisoners, which, for a time, produced general hostilities.

As soon as the firing commenced—being satisfied that I could be of no further service as Indian agent, not having the least influence with

the company, and not being disposed to take part in hostilities commenced under circumstances such as herein related—I left for home, for the purpose of preparing to defend my own house and property, if circumstances should render it necessary.

During the night of the 17th and the morning of the 18th instant, a portion of the whites persuaded the Indians down the river some twenty-five miles, and attacked and dispersed several small parties of them, and, I believe, killed two or three.

On the 20th instant Sam, who, together with the greater part of his men, had taken up a position in an almost impenetrable thicket on the bank of the river near Table Rock, as the whites were preparing to attack him, proposed a cessation of hostilities, and offered to comply with the terms proposed by the whites, and requested that I should be sent for to conclude a treaty; but, as I was confined to the house by sickness, it was impossible for me to comply with his request; and on the 21st instant the Indians and whites met at the agency, and the difficulty was settled—it having been ascertained beyond all doubt that the murderers from Shasty, herein referred to, were not in this valley; they having been arrested near the Klamath lake.

The greater portion of the Indians are still encamped near the agency, and appear entirely friendly.

Permit me again to urge upon you the necessity of your visiting this section of country at as early a day as possible. The Indians are becoming very impatient, and are looking anxiously for their promised presents. I think it will be quite impossible to keep them quiet much longer unless these promises are fulfilled.

At the termination of the late hostilities with the Indians, as they were almost famished, I deemed it advisable to make them a present of two beef-cattle, in order, to some extent, to remove the temptation to renewed depredations on the property of the settlers.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

A. A. SKINNER,
Indian Agent.

ANSON DART, Esq.,
Superintendent Indian Affairs for Oregon Territory.

No. 71.

STEILACOOM, O. T.,
September 1, 1852.

SIR: I have the honor to submit to you, according to the requirements of the department, my first annual report as United States Indian agent for the district of Puget's sound. In submitting it, I take the liberty of calling to your mind the very extensive district I am placed in—extending from the Columbia river, on the south, north to the 49th degree of latitude, and from the Pacific coast, east, to the Cascade range of mountains—and the comparatively short time I have resided in it; which will, I hope, account for the slight amount of interest and information it may seem to contain.

I left Oregon city in the latter part of October last, and took up my residence, according to your instructions, at Steilacoom on the 28th day of that month. Shortly after my arrival, although the rainy season had commenced, the Indians came by tribes to see me, being impelled thereto seemingly by curiosity and an expectation of receiving presents; and all extremely desirous to learn the intentions of the government in regard to purchasing their lands. These visits not being usual with them, I did everything in my power to encourage them, in order to familiarize them with the whites. I therefore distributed the articles you delivered to me for the purpose to the chiefs and most important persons of each tribe, for which they seemed to be most grateful. There are yet, however, tribes I have never seen, and as I have distributed all the articles I brought over with me, excepting light blankets, I would recommend that others be sent me for the same purpose.

I have attempted to learn with accuracy the number of Indians in each different tribe; but it has been out of my power to do so. When they visited me, they did not know themselves; and in visiting them, such is their disposition to wander, that it is seldom, if ever, the whole tribe is found together. I have asked the chiefs of all the tribes I have seen to find out the number of men, women, and children, and let me know the exact numbers. I have taken the name, location, and number of each tribe in this district. The numbers I give from information and my own observation. It is given, however, as only approximative to the true numbers.

I had intended preparing a map of the country contiguous to the sound, but, until lately, have not had the materials; and since I have had them, I have not had leisure to attend to it. In order, therefore, that the location of the different tribes may be more readily comprehended, I will give the names and location of the tribes on the east side of the sound first: commencing at Budd's inlet, the extreme south of the sound, and going north to the 49th degree of latitude, or Point Roberts, immediately below the mouth of Frazier's river. I will then commence at Cape Flattery, on the Straits of Fuca, and give the names and locations of the tribes inhabiting the west side of the sound to Budd's inlet. The tribes who do not frequent the sound, I will give lastly. I speak of the sound as the whole body of inland salt water.

Name of tribe.	Location of tribe.	Supposed number.
Stitcheo-saw-mish, or Turn Water.	Budd's inlet and South bay, vicinity of town of Olympia.	25 or 30
Squally-ah-mish, or Nisqually.	Nesqually river, bay, and vicinity...	100
Pualli-paw-mish, or Pualliss.	Pualliss river, bay, and vicinity....	200
Nee-wam-ish	Nee-wam-ish river, bay, and vicinity.	60
Sah-ma-mish.......	Country bordering on a lake between Nee-wam-ish and Sno-ho-mish rivers.	100
Sno-ho-mish	South end of Whitney's island, Sno-ho-mish river, bay, and vicinity.	250
Skea-wa-mish......	North fork of Sno-ho-mish river, called Skea-wa-mish river.	175
Skuck-stan-a-jumps .	Skuck-stan-a-jumps river, a branch of Skea-wa-mish river.	100
Sno-qual-a-muke....	South fork of Sno-ho-mish river, called Sno-qual-a-muke river.	225
Stilla-qua-mish	Stilla-qua-mish river and vicinity.	175
Kick-u-al-lis	Mouth of Kickuallis river and vicinity	160
Squa-na-mish......	Vicinity of Kickuallis river........	60
Ska-git	North end of Whitney's island, Skagit river and vicinity.	800
Sock-a-muke	Head-waters of Skagit river.......	250
Ne-u-tub-vig	Extreme north end of Whitney's island, and country between Skagit river and Bellingham's bay.	400
Cowe-wa-chin, Noot-hum, Mie-missouks.	The country between the Ne-u-tub-vig territory and Frazier's river. (But little known of these tribes.)	
	Commencing at Cape Flattery.	
Ma-caw, or Flattery.	Cape Flattery to Neah bay........	800
Pist-chin	From Neah bay to point Los Angelos.	200
Sklal-lum..........	The coast between Los Angelos and Port Townsend.	800
Chin-a-kum........	Vicinity of Port Townsend........	75
Tu-a-nooch........	Mouth of Hood's canal...........	150
Sko-sko-mish.......	Head of Hood's canal...........	150
Sno-qua-mish......	Port Orchard, Elliot's bay, and vicinity.	400
Sho-mam-ish.......	Vashon's island................	40
Sroo-tle-mam-ish ...	Case's inlet..................	60
Quack-ena-mish	Case's inlet..................	100
Say-hay-ma-mish ...	Totten inlet..................	35

These are all the tribes that I am aware of that frequent the waters of the sound. There is said to be a tribe called the Clossets, who inhabit the south side of Cape Flattery. I however know nothing of them. It is a part of the country that has never been visited by the whites to my knowledge. Of the tribes inhabiting the country between the Columbia river and Puget's sound, there are but two tribes, excluding the various bands of the Chinooks.

Names.	Location of Tribe.	Supposed Number.
Che-ha-lis	Che-ha-lis river and vicinity	225
Cow-e-litz.......	Cow-e-litz river and vicinity......	200

The Chinooks, and the various bands of that tribe, inhabiting the country immediately in the vicinity of the mouth of the Columbia river, I do not consider necessary to include in this report, as they have been already treated with.

The Click-a-tats are a large and powerful tribe, inhabiting the country east of the Cascade range. Great numbers of them, however, as soon as the snow melts from the mountains in the spring, come over this side of the mountains, where they frequently spend the summer, trading and gambling with the different tribes, exchanging horses for money and hyagua—a shell they are fond of decorating themselves with. These Indians are much superior to the Indians on this side. They resemble more the nomadic tribes of the plains. Two of the most powerful chiefs were here this summer. From them I learned that the tribe is divided into five different bands; in all amounting to some two or three thousand souls. They have immense herds of cattle and horses, and raise wheat, potatoes, &c. They understand the use of the plough, and in many other things seem to far surpass any other Indians I have seen in Oregon.

I have been able to discover but eight different languages among the tribes of this district. These are distinct, and are used among different tribes, as enumerated below. Other languages may exist, but they are not in use that I can discover.

The Stitcha-saw-mich, Squally-ah-mich, Pee-allipaw-mich, Nuna-mish, Sah-wah-mish, Sno-qual-a-muhe, Sno-quam-ish, Quash-sua-mish, Say-hay, Mon-mish, and Scootle-mamish tribes, all use the Nesqually language, and are very similar in character and disposition.

The Sno-ho-mish, Skea-nu-mish, Skuck-stan-a-jumps, and Stilla-qua-mish speak the Sno-ho-mish tongue.

The Ska-git, Kickuallis, Squa-sua-mish, and Sock-a-muke speak the same tongue—the Ska-git.

The Ne-u-lub-vig and Misonks speak the same language, as also, I am informed, the Cow-e-na-chino and Noot-hum-mic. None of these four tribes, with an occasional exception of the Ne-u-lub-vigs, ever come into the American settlements. They go to Vancouver's island to trade.

The Macaws and Pist-chino speak the same language. They scarcely ever come into the country settled by the Americans. They trade mostly at Vancouver's Island, and with vessels that frequently touch there for the purpose.

The Sklal-lums speak a distinct tongue. They wander about a great deal, but trade mostly at Victoria, on Vancouver's Island.

The Chine-a-kums speak a distinct language. They have been killed and made slaves of by the Sklal-lums until there are now but few of them left.

The Tu-a-noock and Sho-ko-mish tribes speak the same language. They are peaceable Indians, and seldom come among the whites.

The Cow-e-litz and Che-ha-lis or Chick-a-lees speak the same language, and are much intermixed.

The character of all these Indians is similar as a general thing. They all depend upon fish, berries, and roots for their main subsistence, and all possess a desire to copy after the whites. The pride they take in dressing in cloth, and of being taught to have dropped their savageness, and to have approached, however distantly, to the manners and likeness of the whites, forms a most marked difference between them and the Indians formerly inhabiting the eastern part of the United States. They are excessively indolent and selfish, having no gratitude or affection, seemingly, beyond themselves. The numerous varieties of fish which abound in the salt and fresh water, together with the roots and berries that grow in abundance through the woods and prairies, give them an easy livelihood wherever they may stray. In their canoes they float through life, wandering in the different seasons to the places abounding most in the different kinds of food. The climate is mild and healthy; a blanket and shirt, as far as clothing is concerned, make them comfortable throughout the year. They are all passionately fond of gambling, frequently gambling away everything they possess—even their women and slaves. Slavery exists among all the tribes, and with every individual who is rich enough to own slaves. Their indolence and food render them cowardly and averse to difficulties where their opponents are anything like equal in strength. They are seldom pugnacious. They are thievish, and will steal nearly anything; if they cannot steal, they will beg; and if the article is not given to them, they will work for it. I have never seen cupidity predominate to the same degree with any other people. It is excited only, however, when they are with the whites. Among themselves they are profusely extravagant, frequently giving away the last thing they have when it will make an impression. Position and authority, with them depend on the number of slaves, blankets, &c., they possess or have given away. There is a chief of the Ska-git tribe who, some time since, gave away over two hundred blankets; and another of the Sklal-lum tribe is about preparing a *fête*, at which there is to be a general collection of Indians, to whom he is to give a quantity of articles; all to enhance his importance. Many of them however, notwithstanding their general indolence, thievishness, and filthiness, who have been living with or near the whites, and are taught by example and punishment, are comparatively industrious, honest, and neat, and are very useful. There are, too, among all the tribes, more or less

exceptions, who are industrious and honest to a degree one would hardly expect to see among untutored savages. There is a great deal of liquor consumed by the Indians in this district, and I have been disappointed in my hopes of entirely stopping its consumption. Government having granted lands upon certain conditions to actual settlers, without reference to the extinction of the Indian title, settlers are scattered over this part of Oregon in every direction. They all of course claim the privilege of American citizens, and say, with much truth, that government having induced them to emigrate, it did not intend to inflict them with all the penalties of the law regulating trade and intercourse with the Indians; for there is a special clause in that law prohibiting persons other than Indians from residing in an Indian country. They contend, therefore, that they have a right to keep liquor for their own use, and to sell to whites, provided they do not sell or give it to Indians. Vessels coming into the sound contend, on the same grounds, that they have a right to bring in liquor to trade with American citizens. If this is the case, where there is a large population of Indians, they will get it, notwithstanding the destruction of liquor and the indictment of a few, against whom there is testimony, fortunately, of their having sold or given Indians liquor.

There is much complaint among American sutlers and traders that Indians this side of the line dividing the possessions of the United States from those of Great Britain are not prohibited bringing blankets and other articles from the British side to this. I suppose there is no doubt but that it should be stopped; but to do it, would require a vessel to cruise in the sound for the purpose. Besides, I think it would be injudicious to attempt to restrict them in such a manner before treaties are made with them for purchasing their lands. When treaties are made with them, a clause inserted in each treaty, as one of its requirements, making them agree to abstain from such trade, would, I think, in a measure, be effectual. I would recommend that, when treaties are made with these tribes, their future homes all be included in one reservation, each tribe having the extent of its reservation marked off, and their fishing-grounds be granted them; and over the reservation, that the law regulating trade and intercourse with the Indians, and any other law relating thereto, be extended with full force. I think, situated in this way, much good might be done them, by at least an attempt to educate and teach them the various arts. They all, more or less, cultivate the potato, and are very fond of them, and in many other things they seem to imbibe the rudiments of civilization, and to improve by what is taught them.

There have been, since I have been in this district, several vessels wrecked on the coast north of Cape Disappointment. The names and circumstances of only three of the wrecked vessels have come to my knowledge: the sloop Georgeanna, the brig Eagle, and the brig Una—a vessel belonging to the Hudson's Bay Company. Information of the wreck of other vessels has been obtained from the Macaw Indians, who, trading with other tribes along the coast, have brought articles to sell to the whites, that were evidently from vessels, and stated that the Indians they got them of said they were obtained from wrecked vessels.

If such be the case, nothing definite has been heard of the vessels or crews.

The sloop Georgeanna was wrecked sometime in October last, on Queen Charlotte's island, with a party of miners on board, consisting of some forty persons, who had gone from the vicinity of the sound to the island to seek gold. They were all made prisoners by the Indians, but were subsequently bought from them. A vessel was chartered by the collector of this district and despatched to their relief with a file of soldiers, and some citizen volunteers, under command of Lieut. John Dement, who succeeded in purchasing the prisoners of the Indians. The brig Eagle was wrecked in August last, on the coast of Vancouver's island, near Nootka sound. The persons on board, except two, succeeded in making their escape. The two who were taken by the Indians were afterwards purchased of the Indians by the captain of the schooner Dumers Cove. The brig Una was wrecked on Cape Flattery, in the Straits of Fuca, in December last. The passengers and crew succeeded in getting on shore, when they were maltreated by the Indians, and probably would have been murdered, but a vessel fortunately coming in at the time, they succeeded in boarding her. Soon after reaching the vessel, the Indians pillaged and set on fire the Una, which was totally consumed. As soon after receiving information of this fact as practicable, I despatched a communication to his Excellency the Governor of Vancouver's island, requesting a report of the circumstances of the depredations of the Indians after the wreck, that I might take action in the matter, or report it. Before I received an answer, I learned of the arrival in the sound of the sloop-of-war Vincennes, under command of Captain Henderson. Having reports of the fact of the wreck, and destruction of the vessel by the Indians, as well as the robbery and ill-treatment of the passengers and crew, I immediately applied to Captain Henderson for assistance to inflict punishment on the Indians, and for the recovery of the stolen property. He refused, however, to do anything in the matter, urging as the reason the insufficiency of the information I had. Some eight or ten days after, I received an answer to my communication to Governor Douglas, (a copy of which I herewith enclose,) in which he stated that the matter had been amicably and satisfactorily adjusted with the tribe. This is the only wreck of which definite information has been obtained that has happened within the bounds of this district; and, consequently, is the only case that I have taken official notice of. These Indians, the Macaws, are a bold and powerful tribe. In their canoes, armed with a rude harpoon, made of the teeth of the whale, in which is inserted a stick, to which is attached an inflated bladder, they seek the whale sometimes thirty miles from shore. They take considerable numbers of them, and derive from the sale of the oil what to them is a large amount of riches. They are expert thieves, too; and seldom let an opportunity pass for exercising their skill. The want of more frequent visits of vessels of war has been seriously felt, both by the citizens and masters of vessels trading in the sound. Even if they do nothing, their presence exercises a salutary influence over the Indians for a long time after their visit. Many of the tribes, like the Macaw tribe, are so located that it is impossible to approach them with a force by land on

account of the ruggedness of the country and the dense forests which cover it. Many things, therefore, for which they should have been punished, have been passed over without notice. Although the troops stationed at this post, (company M, of the 1st regiment of artillery,) under their intelligent and active officers, have been the means, by the prompt and energetic measures they have taken, of protecting the lives and property of our citizens to a great degree; yet, unless the post is removed further down the sound—where it would be more central as regards the Indian population, as vessels of war do not more frequently visit these waters—I think there is great reason to apprehend serious difficulties with the Indians, which, in the present condition of the country, would be the cause of much bloodshed and destruction of property.

I would, in conclusion, beg permission to state that, owing to the scattered condition of the settlements, and the frequent and necessary calls, by the settlers and Indians, upon the Indian agent to attend to the duties connected with his office, it is necessary for him to travel about a great deal; therefore, the expenses will be very heavy. The expenses of living here are such that the salary of an agent is but little more than sufficient for his support. I would respectfully ask, therefore, that some arrangement be made so that the agent receive the outlay he expends, in this manner, every quarter.

I am, sir, your obedient servant,

E. A. STARLING,
Indian Agent for district of Puget's Sound.

Hon. ANSON DART,
Superintendent of Indian Affairs
for Territory of Oregon, Milwaukie, O. T.

No. 72.

FORT VICTORIA, *February* 11, 1852.

SIR: I have to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of 28th January, suggesting that a report of the burning of the ship "Una," and the ill treatment experienced by the passengers and crew, from the Indians, after the wreck of that vessel near Cape Flattery, should be drawn up for your information, that measures might be taken for the punishment of their offence, with the means at your command; or that the case might be reported to the proper officer.

In reference to that matter, I have much satisfaction in reporting to you that a deputation of Indians from Cape Flattery arrived at this place about the 20th of last month, to propose an accommodation, on the principle of a full restitution of the property seized, and of an annual payment of oil afterwards.

They appeared so exceedingly anxious to atone for the offence committed, and the injury done to her Majesty's subjects, that we agreed, in part, to those terms, and despatched the schooner "Cadboro'" to receive the property in their possession, which was faithfully delivered

up to the officer in command of that vessel. The chief or principal person of the tribe, who it appears was not present when the Una was wrecked, evinced his good-will in every possible shape, and vigorously exerted his authority in compelling the restitution of the property.

The officers in command of the "Cadboro'" ascertained that the same chief had, of his own accord, made a severe example of the plunderers of the Una; having caused ten of the number to be shot, and one, who was accused of being the party who set the vessel on fire, to be buried alive. Those barborous acts—the result of their own uninfluenced deliberations—evince the sincerity of their repentance, and we have, in consequence, renewed peaceful relations with the tribe.

It will, therefore, not be necessary for the government of the United States to take any further measures against them, on account of the affair of the Una, which has been settled to our satisfaction.

I beg, on the part of this government, to express the high sense we entertain of your proffered good offices on this occasion, for which be assured of our gratitude and good offices in return.

I have the honor to be, sir, your obedient servant,

JAMES DOUGLASS,
Governor of Vancouver's Island.

EDMUND A. STARLING, Esq.,
Indian Agent, &c., &c.